

## Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

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|                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
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WALKER LA

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER 2010

- 1 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer, Walker, 9—Noon
- 1 Ministers Conference, Hebron, 10:00 AM
- 5 Missions Camping Workshop, Baptist Building
- 9 Retired Ministers Lunch, Ryan's, 11:30 AM
- 15-16 Louisiana Baptist Convention, Riverfront Convention Center, Alexandria
- 18 Mission Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
- 21-22 Youth Evangelism Celebration, Rapides Coliseum, Alexandria
- 24-26 ELBA Office Closed
- 25 Thanksgiving Day
- 28—Dec. 5 Week of Prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering



### DECEMBER 2010

- 6 Pastors, Staff & Spouses Christmas Dinner & Fellowship, Gray's Creek, 6:30 PM
- 16 Mission Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
- 25 Christmas Day



## MINISTERS CONFERENCE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2010  
10:00 AM

HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH  
24063 LA HWY 16, Denham Springs, LA 70726



## MINISTERS & MATES CHRISTMAS DINNER & FELLOWSHIP

Monday, December 6, 2010 — 6:30 PM  
Gray's Creek Baptist Church  
21039 LA HWY 16, Denham Springs, LA 70726

All church staff members and their spouses are invited to attend. Please call the Associational Office (664-9309) by November 30 to let us know that you will be attending.

## Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

Monday, November 1, 2010  
Walker Baptist Church  
9:00 AM—12:00 Noon



*"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."*  
—Galatians 5:25

Call Betty Marsh, (225) 664-4617, for more information.

*"Be Filled with the Spirit . . ." Ephesians 5:18*

## LBC Annual Meeting November 15-16, 2010

The 2010 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Baptist Convention will be held November 15-16 at the Riverfront Center, Alexandria.



## HEART TO HEART

### **SBC Life. It is changing!**

Recent happenings in the Southern Baptist Convention have given me cause for both interest and concern. Kevin Ezell, recently elected president of the North American Mission Board recently spoke to the staff indicating that “considerable change” is coming. The first step in a series of staff changes that are to occur is a “retirement incentive” that is to begin a staff reduction over the next few months. He said, “We don’t know the extent as to what will happen, but we do know that this will be the first phase.”

Baptist Press wrote, “Under the plan, staff who are age 55 and older will be credited additional years of service in order to qualify for health insurance benefits. Additionally, a retirement incentive bonus will be paid, based on years of service.”

Ezell compared the changes coming to NAMB to a company that had been making washing machines and now will be making cars.

The first phase of this “considerable change” that will reduce NAMB staff seems to be aimed at those with the most tenure, experience, and perhaps wisdom. It is almost like saying that the more mature are no longer appreciated and wanted.

It is nothing new that younger generations believe that their ways and ideas are better than those who have gone before them, but I hope and pray that we will not see a Rehoboam experience who *“forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him, [and] which stood before him: (1 Kings 12:8).* As you recall, Rehoboam’s decision divided the kingdom. While I do believe we need to be alert to new and innovative means of doing the work of the Kingdom, those new and innovative means need to be God-given and not human-intellect-driven. Also, a greater number of birthdays do not mean those individuals cannot have new and innovative ideas.

SBC president Bryant Wright said, “Southern Baptists have been given a tremendous opportunity to help fulfill the Great Commission in their lifetime, but it will take a radical reassessment of priorities to make it happen.” “The average evangelical Christian gives about 2.4 percent of his financial resources to ‘the Lord’s work,’ Wright noted, and local congregations, Baptist state conventions, and national Southern Baptist entities could pass along more financial resources to the cause of taking the Gospel to those who have yet to hear.” These are interesting comments coming from a pastor whose church gave only 3.9% of their 2009 undesignated offerings of \$16,074,014 through the Cooperative Program. I do agree that it will take some significant, if not radical, shifting of priorities for Southern Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission and that call for radical reassessment of priorities needs to begin in the individual heart, and local church as well as all other denominational entities.

Yes, these are challenging times. It seems that everything we hear is about change. The most needed change is for each of us to be so in touch with the Lord that only His changes are those implemented. We must be careful to heed the words of Scripture, *“lean not unto thine own understanding” (Prov. 3:6).*

As a result, these are times for all of us to pray for a mighty work of God’s Spirit in our own lives, in all of our churches, and in all the leaders of our association, state convention, and SBC.

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

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES  
SEPTEMBER 2010**

Deposits through October 11, 2010

| Contributions                       | SEPT 10          | TOTAL             |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Agape'                              | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Amite                               | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Beech Ridge                         | 355.92           | 355.92            |
| Bethel                              | 145.77           | 145.77            |
| Calvary                             | 200.59           | 200.59            |
| Carroll                             | 327.42           | 327.42            |
| Central                             | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Christ's Community                  | 300.00           | 300.00            |
| Colyell                             | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Denham Springs                      | 513.73           | 513.73            |
| Don Avenue                          | 189.95           | 189.95            |
| Doyle                               | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Emmanuel                            | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Faith                               | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| French Settlement                   | 297.14           | 297.14            |
| Gray's Creek                        | 417.00           | 417.00            |
| Greater Third Zion                  | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Head of Island                      | 186.32           | 186.32            |
| Hebron                              | 2,210.16         | 2,210.16          |
| Holden                              | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Judson                              | 1,896.84         | 1,896.84          |
| Live Oak                            | 2,555.21         | 2,555.21          |
| Livingston                          | 514.00           | 514.00            |
| Macedonia                           | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Magnolia                            | 438.00           | 438.00            |
| Maurepas                            | 500.00           | 500.00            |
| Midway                              | 204.09           | 204.09            |
| New Bethlehem                       | 25.00            | 25.00             |
| New Covenant                        | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Northside                           | 203.91           | 203.91            |
| One Life                            | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Pine Grove                          | 439.64           | 439.64            |
| Red Oak                             | 200.00           | 200.00            |
| River of Life                       | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Riverside                           | 241.35           | 241.35            |
| Salem                               | 0.00             | 0.00              |
| Satsuma                             | 253.67           | 253.67            |
| South Walker                        | 105.93           | 105.93            |
| Southside                           | 133.45           | 133.45            |
| The New Beginnings                  | 123.78           | 123.78            |
| Victory                             | 125.44           | 125.44            |
| Walker                              | 1,757.53         | 1,757.53          |
| <b>Total Contributions</b>          | <b>14,861.84</b> | <b>14,861.84</b>  |
| <b>Total Designated Funds</b>       | <b>1,387.42</b>  | <b>1,387.42</b>   |
| <b>Total Income</b>                 | <b>16,249.26</b> | <b>16,249.26</b>  |
| Capital One Total                   |                  | 81,051.24         |
| Louisiana Baptist Foundation Total  |                  | 195,193.46        |
| <b>Total Checking &amp; Savings</b> |                  | <b>292,562.29</b> |

## News from the Churches...

**AGAPE' BAPTIST CHURCH** is in need of a pianist. Please contact **Peggy Savignol**, 225-667-1407, for more information.

**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH** welcomes **Daniel Brimer** as youth pastor. **Max Landry** is pastor.

**MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH** invites everyone to their 2nd annual **"Christmas in the Pines"**, celebrating Christmas with live music in an old-fashioned meeting place. Beginning at 6:00 PM on Thursday, December 2, 2010, Macedonia Baptist Church, the oldest church in the parish, brings back Christmas from long ago. There will be lots of traditional Christmas hymns, Scripture (The Christmas Story), quaint decorations from the past, fellowship and a general good time. They invite you to join them in this old-time Christmas adventure as they kick off the Christmas season. The church is located at 34685 HWY 1036, Holden, LA 70744. If you, your group or choir would like to participate, call Roger or Janice at 225-664-4448. **Roger Dunlap** is pastor.



**Andrew Voss** has resigned as pastor of **SATSUMA BAPTIST CHURCH** to accept the pastorate at Hillcrest Baptist church, Franklinton, LA.

**WALKER BAPTIST CHURCH** Youth Ministry Team invites all area youth to join them for **4Day Jesus** on November 1-4, 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 guest bands each night. Guest speaker is Todd Blount. Don't miss what is going to happen during the 4 days that are devoted 4 Him. The church is located at 10696 Florida Blvd., Walker, LA. **Ray McCon** is Minister to Students. **Richard Blue** is pastor.

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN LOCATION!!!!!!**

### Youth Evangelism Celebration

November 21-23, 2010

Rapides Coliseum, Alexandria

Cost: \$40 per person

Featuring:

**Ryan Fontenot**—Session Speaker  
**Stephen Miller Band**—Worship Leaders  
**"Far From Ordinary"**—Drama  
**Joe Castillo**—Sand Artist

[www.LBC.org/YEC](http://www.LBC.org/YEC)

# Church Growth Corner

Freddie Arnold

## ELBA Annual Meeting Report

The ELBA staff has and continues to say thank you to the Riverside Baptist Church for hosting the ELBA Annual Fall Meeting. Pastor Larry Hubbard, Bro. David Chelette, kitchen staff and the maintenance staff did a fantastic job of providing and preparing the facilities for this meeting. I want to say thank you to each one who attended the meeting, committee members, association officers, LBC staff representatives and messengers for your participation. We appreciate the many positive comments that you have shared with us about the information that we shared with you. I felt as if it were an Acts 2:46b situation as “we all came together, ate and shared together”.

## ELBA Sunday School Conference

February 19, ELBA will sponsor a Sunday School Leadership Conference at Walker Baptist Church. We are in the process of developing the plans and details of this conference, but I wanted you to know the date and place now. Put it on your calendars, and as the details come together, we will be publishing them for you. In light of the survey of the past 20 years of the Sunday School across ELBA, we must re-emphasize the importance of the Sunday School to church growth and development.

## Sunday School Growth Tip:

The S. S. Class, Department, Division, etc., that partied together on a regular basis were the ones that were growing. Josh Hunt, author of “Make Your Group Grow,” did a survey of a large group of growing Christian Bible Study groups to see what made them grow. The results determined that the most important factor was the number of fellowships or parties that they had throughout the year. The groups that had nine or more “get-togethers” a year were the ones that were growing. It also was determined that those that had twelve parties a year were the fastest growing. We are a society in need of fellowship, yet we will search out and use any excuse to keep from getting together. You might ask at this point what type of parties you should plan. His findings revealed the following four factors. **One**, it didn’t matter what the size or type party. **Two**, it didn’t matter if it were an expensive or inexpensive party. **Three**, it didn’t matter if it were a gal, guy or co-ed party. **Four**, get-togethers could be service (mission) projects or fun parties. The idea appears that we like to get together and fellowship. It is party time folks and we need to get-it-together. The major key to the success is making sure that **every** member of the group is invited **every** time a party is planned. Also, we must be sure that **every** real or possible prospect is invited to these parties. This is biblical according to Luke 5:27-31(NIV).



# The Prayer Room

*Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart...(Luke 18:1).*

One of our great temptations is to neglect prayer, not that we neglect it altogether, but that we give it less attention than we should. Two opposite sets of circumstances can lead us to be slack in our prayer life. The first is when we are feeling healthy, happy, and successful. We often seem to be less aware of our need for prayer in such circumstances. If we look at prayer as a last resort in desperate circumstances, then we can easily neglect prayer when our circumstances appear to be great. However, we should praise and thank God for the blessings we enjoy as well as praying for lost people and others who are going through difficult times.

The second set of circumstances is when we suffer greatly for a prolonged period and God seems not to hear our pleas for relief. Satan whispers that our prayers are doing no good, so why continue to pray. In such circumstances, we should continue to pray earnestly, knowing that God will never forsake any child of His. We should pray submissively, willing that our tribulations should continue as long as it pleases God to allow this and remembering that God can bring good results from bad circumstances. We can trust Him to give us strength.

Two prayer requests: Let us be in prayer for our associational leaders and for our churches who are looking for a pastor.

## *Lottie Moon Christmas Offering*

**Week of Prayer: November 28-December 5**

**Emphasis: Are We There Yet?**

Let the people praise you, God; let all the people praise you.  
(Psalm 67:3 HSC)

Envelopes, prayer guides and other materials will be mailed to the churches.

## BIBLES NEEDED FOR PRISON MINISTRY



Bibles are needed for distribution at the Livingston Parish Prison.

If you or your group are interested, please call Pat at Hebron Baptist Church, 225-665-6278. For more information about how you can help

this vital ministry, call Shirley Ballard, 225-791-4498, or Brenda McMorris, 225-664-3185.

There is also a need for “softback” Christian books and literature.