

“For it is by grace
you have been
saved, through faith
- and this is not
from yourselves, it
is the gift of God.”

— Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)

M BAPTIST Message

Newsjournal for Louisiana Baptists

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August 11, 2016

Old message brings new life at Pine Ridge

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

MELDER – Jason Townley wakes up each Sunday with anxious anticipation about how God will move within the congregation of Pine Ridge Baptist Church.

Since January Townley has baptized more than 70 people of all ages and walks of life, and all wanting a new life.

“They basically are telling us we are tired of our way, we want a new way and that’s following Jesus,” Townley said. “It truly is amazing. Through the power of prayer and preaching the truth of the Word of God we have seen the power of the Holy Spirit time after time draw people to Himself. We never want it to end and believe that it doesn’t have to end.

“What’s amazing to us is that every Sunday God is bringing new people to Pine Ridge Baptist Church and we are seeing many of them come to Jesus,” he said. “People are looking for a place where

See **NEW LIFE** on 5



3,202 SAVED in Brazil!



Souls Saved

3,202 recorded salvation decisions during eight days of crusades and outreach.

Needy Helped

700 men, women and children received medical and vision care.

Churches Built

Three church buildings were constructed in just five business days.

Making Inroads

Burl Cain to export Angola seminary program to a Brazil prison.

Hands & Feet

61 Louisiana Baptists representing 10 congregations, and another 37 Southern Baptists from Utah, Texas, North Carolina, Florida and California participated.

(Top left) **STONES CRY OUT:** Carlos Meza, pastor of Calvary Spanish Mission Church in Shreveport, used a store mannequin in a town near Belo Horizonte, Brazil, to catch the attention of a passer-by in order to share the Gospel – and the young man gave his heart to Christ.

(Above) **BLIND SEE:** A church helper and a volunteer interpreter react with tears of joy upon learning an elderly woman could now see with the help of donated prescription eyeglasses fitted by Sue Johns, a member of First Baptist Church in Graceville, Florida, and mother of Brent Johns, administrative and discipleship pastor at First Baptist Church in Houma.

BY WILL HALL, MESSAGE EDITOR

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (LBM) – Louisiana Baptists returning from Belo Horizonte, Brazil, are sharing testimonies of widespread revival in churches, communities, prisons and schools, following an 8-day schedule of crusades, medical ministries and other outreach efforts in this South American country.

Wayne Jenkins, director of evangelism and church growth for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, said there were a recorded 3,202 salvation decisions resulting from events conducted July 10-17, bookended by overnight flights between the two continents, July 8-9 and 18-19.

See **BRAZIL** on 6

Burl Cain to export Angola seminary program to Brazil

By WILL HALL
Message Editor

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (LBM) – Burl Cain is thankful for how God is directing his path.

Cain, who recently retired after serving 21 years as warden of the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, told the *Baptist Message* a plan is unfolding for his life that he did not anticipate when he left his career in state corrections – especially after returning from his visit to Brazil.

“Wayne Jenkins asked me whether I had the passion to duplicate in Brazil what we were able to do at Angola with the seminary program we established there through New Orleans Baptist Theological

Seminary,” Cain said.

“I went with a lot of uncertainty about what I might accomplish with only a few contacts and just a little bit of time to be in the country,” he said. “I was astonished how fast things developed after I arrived.”

Cain said he was overwhelmed how God arranged for him to meet with the key authorities needed to move forward with a proposal to establish a four-year degree program in a Brazilian federal prison.

He said he was able to make a presentation to the director general of prisons, the warden of the correctional facility, the director of education programs for prisons and leaders of the Brazilian Baptist

Seminary which will be a partner.

“I showed a video of prisoners preaching and told them about how violence had been reduced so dramatically after we implemented the program, and they were ready to sign on,” he described.

He said he is going back in September with Jimmy Dukes, NOBTS senior professor of New Testament Greek and director of prison programs, to start putting together a plan.

“We have ten states in our country that are pursuing similar programs, efforts underway in Kenya and El Salvador, and now Brazil – all coming out of Angola because Louisiana Baptists invested in the lives of the men there,” Cain shared.

Cain said he also presented information about the “Malachi Dads” program they developed at Angola. “It teaches inmates how to be dads and to ‘rehabilitate’ their sons, so they don’t end up in prison,”



Submitted photo

Burl Cain, former warden of the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, listens as Dwight Lowrie, pastor of Liberty Eylau Baptist Church, Texarkana, Texas, makes a point during discussions with Brazilian officials about implementing a seminary program in one of their prisons.

he said.

“I’m honored God dropped all this in my lap,” Cain said in closing. “And I’m proud to be associated with Louisiana Baptists. They just don’t know

all they are part of simply because they chose to support a prison ministry that God used to turn around one of the most violent corrections institutions in America.”

Submission of security forms for Angola Revival needed soon

By STAFF

Baptist Message

ANGOLA – The deadline is quickly approaching to

submit forms necessary to participate in the annual Louisiana Baptist Angola Prison Revival.

Set for Sept. 16-17 on the grounds of the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, the annual event will feature revival services and one-on-one Gospel presentations with inmates throughout the weekend.

The Angola revival has taken place since 1995, the year New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary held its first class at the prison extension center.

The first day of the revival begins at 5 p.m. with a time of worship and ends around 8 p.m. that evening. The revival continues the following day at 9:30 a.m., with an opportunity to visit one-on-one with inmates, before ending at 2 p.m. Only males are eligible to participate in the revival.

Because of a lack of housing, the prison is not offering

See ANGOLA on 4

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All-state choir ministers through more than song

BY HOLLY JO LINZAY

Regional Reporter

ALEXANDRIA – Students of the Louisiana Baptist All-State Youth Choir spent the early part of this summer worshipping through song, sharing testimonies and reaching out to others.

Seventy-eight youth, representing 38 churches throughout the state, participated in a June trip to Tennessee accompanied by 10 adult sponsors. The choir sang praises to God and presented personal testimonies at youth detention centers, public parks, shelters, rescue missions, nursing homes, shopping malls and a few unexpected places.

Chris Turner, minister of music at First Baptist Church in Pineville, headed up the tour this year.

“The youth choir got to sing and help minister with a church in downtown Nashville that reaches out to the homeless under a bridge. It was a moving experience,” Turner said.

He has participated in the choir tour for three years as a sponsor, but this year he oversaw the 10-day trip for Herb Armentrout, the LBC youth music consultant out of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, who was unable to travel because of scheduled surgery.

The group made quite an impact in Tennessee, Turner said.

“This was not just a choir tour. The youth were given the opportunity to do mission projects, as well as be in the choir. They interacted with the people and shared Christ with them,”

Turner said.

Auditions for the All-State Choir, limited to students in grades 9-12 who have a recommendation from their music minister or pastor, begin in January.

The choir includes an 18-member ensemble group called “Everlasting Praise,” which met for practice at the University of Louisiana at Monroe for a few days ahead of the entire all-state youth choir. After days of combined rehearsals, the choir departed the ULM campus and traveled to Chattanooga, Tenn.

Senior Morgan Crosser, Calhoun First Baptist Church, said this was her first year to participate in the choir and that the tour was “life-changing.”

“The choir trip was the best experience. I’ve always struggled with talking to people. I’d get scared about what people thought of me – but, not on this trip. When we were at a men’s



Submitted photo

Members of the Louisiana Baptist All-State Youth Choir performs in a public park in Tennessee. The 78-strong choir spent the early part of June worshipping through song, sharing testimonies and reaching out to others.

rescue mission, I felt the confidence that Jesus can give you. I asked to share my testimony there, which is something I’ve never done before. But Jesus is something you can’t be quiet about,” Crosser enthused.

John Aaron Green, a junior from First Baptist Church in West Monroe, explained how participating in the choir tour the last two years has forced him to step out of his comfort zone with regard to sharing about his faith

with others.

He said this was especially true when the group visited an open homeless shelter after being warned some people there might possess drugs or weapons.

“I was a little nervous, at first, when we were setting up the equipment. But when the choir started singing, I saw all these people raising their hands and clapping to our songs. I saw their hearts open up and saw the

expression of worship on their faces. There was freedom. It was incredible,” Green said.

Telling others about Jesus offers encouragement, Green added: “The more you share with others about Jesus, the more you want to share. It’s a movement inside of you. We have an obligation to share, and I am unashamed.”

Please see Testimonials on www.baptistmessage.com

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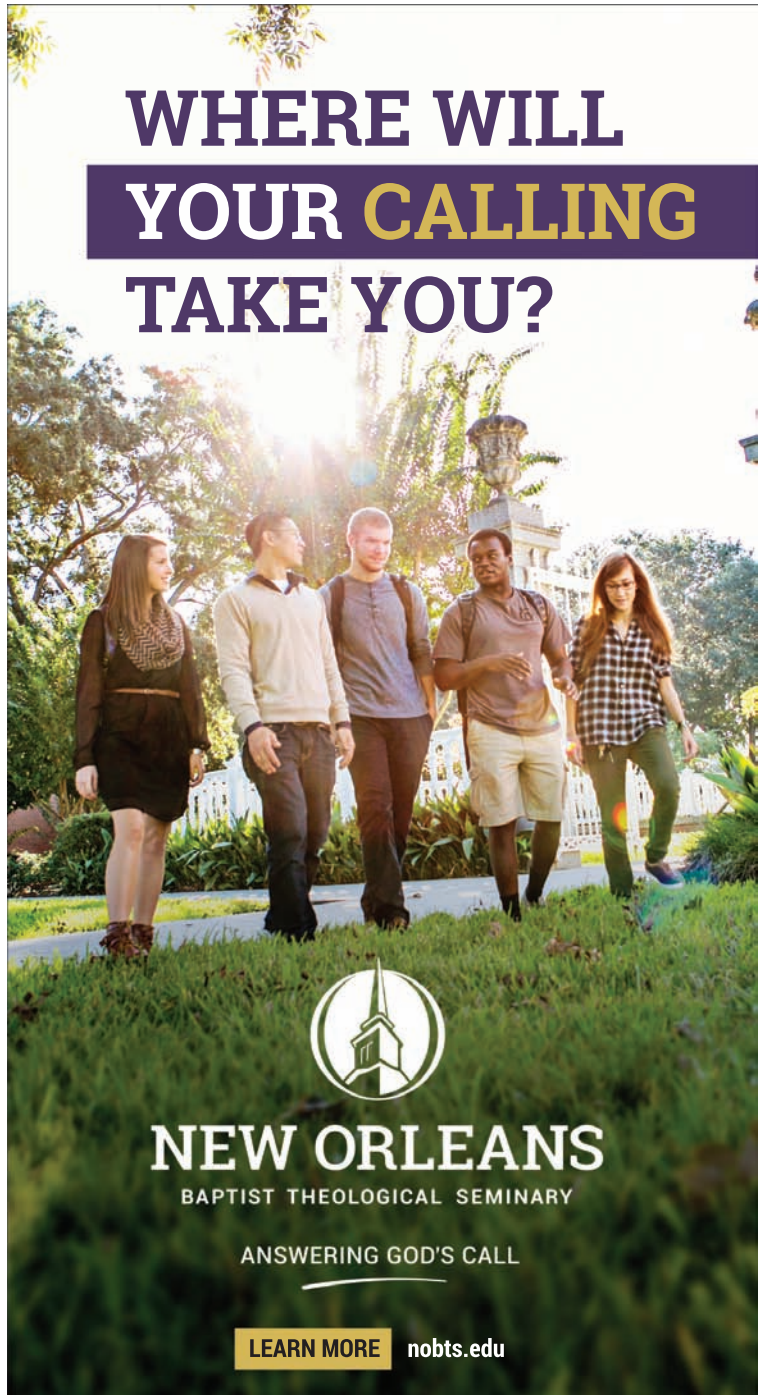
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Horseshoe Drive to celebrate 'last service' before re-launch

By WILL HALL
Message Editor

ALEXANDRIA – Horseshoe Drive Baptist Church commemorated the dedication of its new worship center June 30, 1968, with a congregational photo, and interim Pastor Robert Daniel said he hopes for a reenactment Aug. 21 as members celebrate a “last service” in the recently renewed and updated facilities before re-launching as a revitalized congregation Sept. 18.

“This will be our final service as ‘Horseshoe Drive

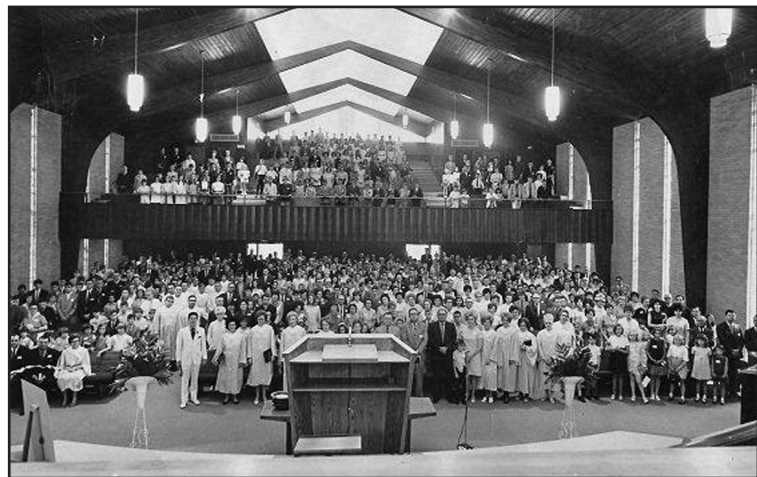
Baptist Church’ and we’re going to treat it as a homecoming,” said Daniel, director of missions for Central Louisiana Baptist Association. “We’re inviting past members and leaders to come and celebrate our legacy, but also to rejoice in the future God is unfolding for us as a reborn family of faith.”

He added that it is important to recognize all the impact the congregation has had as salt and light in Alexandria before it is reborn as a multisite campus of Philadelphia Baptist Church in Deville.

“We’ll have a time of food and fellowship Sunday morning in place of Bible study classes,” he explained. “Worship services will include a message, but also a time to recognize pastors and long-time members who have contributed to this ministry since Nov. 16, 1958.”

The “final service” will serve as a point of closure, he explained, but also set the stage for the reboot of the congregation in the community.

Sept. 18, both campuses will be re-launched as Philadelphia Church but differenti-



Submitted photo

Horseshoe Drive Baptist Church dedicated its new worship center June 30, 1968, after starting as a mission congregation of Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria, in 1958. The church will re-launch Sept. 18 as a multisite campus of Philadelphia Baptist Church, Deville.

ated by location – Philadelphia Church, Deville, and Philadelphia Church, Horseshoe Drive.

Daniel said the campus has received more than just a facelift in recent months in anticipation of the multisite service which will be inaugurated when the two congregations become one.

Pews have been reupholstered and refinished, and the front of the worship center has been redesigned, he said. The children’s ministry area has been completely redone, and the fellowship hall received some needed upkeep.

Likewise, he said the technology in the worship center

has been upgraded.

Besides a major overhaul of the sound system, two wall-mounted 90-inch LED viewing panels have been installed on either side of the platform, and a 9 foot by 12 foot projection screen has been built into the platform and will rise up from the floor to facilitate joint services with the Deville campus.

“We invite past members to come celebrate with us,” Daniel said. “We also welcome the community to join us as well. But if they can’t make it Aug. 28, we’ll be out in force in just a few weeks to reintroduce ourselves to them!”

Angola from page 2

housing on campus. Though meals are not provided, participants may bring snack items to

enjoy in their vehicles.

“Louisiana Baptists’ Angola Prison Revival provides our volunteers a way to touch lives who quickly lose contact with the outside world,” said Keith Manuel, evangelism associate for Louisiana Baptists. “The average inmate has little contact with family or friends after seven years in the prison system.

“If you want your men to learn how to share their faith, the Angola Revival is a great event for a person to have many witnessing opportunities in a short period of time,” he said. “When this happens, that man returns to his community with the confidence he can share his faith effectively.”

Those wishing to take part in the revival must complete security clearance forms by Aug. 29. The forms may be emailed to suzanne.sheridan@louisianabaptists.org.

Security clearance forms as well as a document of “do’s and don’ts for volunteers” is available for download at louisianabaptists.org/event/angola-revival. For additional information, call Manuel at 800.622.6549.

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New Life from page one

the presence of God is and that's what we pray for at Pine Ridge Baptist Church."

ALL TO JESUS

Changing lives at Pine Ridge Baptist Church 'one family at a time' is what Kloee Martin and her husband Brett experienced.

During their first year of marriage they were on the verge of divorce.

However, hearing God's Word as Townley counseled them one on one, both Kloee and Brett declared Christ as Lord and Savior.

"When we were young, we did not know completely what this world versus what being saved from our sin meant," Kloee said. "We do now and we both were baptized July 17, 2016.

"With my son Rafe in my belly and my husband watching I was baptized, and I watched my husband Brett get baptized right after me. It was one of the best feelings," she said. "Praise the Lord!"

Like the Martins, Joe White's life took a turn in the right direction after an encounter with God at Pine Ridge.

For weeks Townley preached and for weeks God dealt with Joe, but he refused to take that step of faith.

While mowing his grass one afternoon, White finally stopped rejecting the Holy Spirit's conviction and definitively said 'yes' to Jesus.

"It was like He was right there and said 'Joe, it's you that's holding back,'" he recalled. "I asked my daughters for Brother Jason's number, and I didn't tell anyone what I

was going to do.

"The second I got his number, I contacted him and told him I was ready and he spoke to me about my salvation," he continued. "That evening, we were at my grandson's baseball game, and there was no better feeling than to share with my family that I would spend eternity in Heaven. My life has changed forever and I'm thankful that the Lord never gave up on me."

PRAYER FOR THE LOST

The movement of God at Pine Ridge Baptist Church began a few years ago, when the pastor felt led to have old-fashioned prayer meetings Wednesday nights.

The men meet and pray together, so do the ladies and even the youth – all asking God to save souls.

Then they "put feet" to their prayers and go out weekly to tell people about Jesus.

Townley said revival has been spreading throughout the church and that has led to an awakening in the community.

He said each week people are declaring their need for Christ and for baptism and Sunday morning attendance has grown.

When Townley became pastor in 1993, just a handful of members came on a typical Sunday. He said now attendance is about 300.

Townley said he is grateful his congregation sees the value in not settling for the status quo, and the importance of reaching out to people with the love of Christ.

"Here at Pine Ridge Baptist Church we are growing as a result of prayer, preaching and pursuing people with Jesus on a day-to-day basis," Townley said. "We have nothing to boast of but Jesus Christ and Him crucified and resurrected from the dead. It's His power in us that makes the difference!

"We desperately want God's Spirit to continually fill this place," he added, "and His people to reach the lost and make disciples."

Townley said his congregation's mission is simply to see sinners saved by the grace of God and then prayerfully disciplined to follow Christ.



Submitted photo

Pastor Jason Townley prepares to baptize Hailey Feucht. Since January, Townley has baptized more than 70 people.

"I have seen first-hand that all around us there are people starving for truth and many are wanting to be saved but don't know how," he said. "Recently we have reached adults and kids from 12 years old and upward that have never been to church a day in

their life. We've witnessed so many that don't even know John 3:16 or the 10 Commandments.

"God called me to Pine Ridge Baptist Church 23 years ago, but I have never seen

See NEW LIFE on 10

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Brazil from page one

“God did exceedingly above all that we could think or ask,” Jenkins said. “Even working for the first time with this Brazilian association, the way was smooth in constructing three church buildings in five business days and reaching the number of people who came to know Christ, especially in some difficult areas.”

“Moreover, the Gospel was re-received by every age group and social

class,” he added.

“On top of that,” Jenkins offered, “it is remarkable to think that Burl Cain was given favor, in such a short amount of time, in lining up the three entities in the country needed to get permission to replicate in a Brazilian federal prison the same spiritual and moral rehabilitation program we have in Angola.”

Cain served as warden of the

Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola for 21 years before retiring in 2016.

In 1995, he initiated a four-year college degree program at the prison –with New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary – which is now being reproduced around the United States because of its success in the moral rehabilitation of its graduates.

Jenkins coordinated the mission trip, his 25th to Brazil with the Louisiana Baptist Convention but the first time to work in Belo Horizonte. He

was joined by 60 Louisiana Baptists representing 10 congregations, and another 37 Southern Baptists from Utah, Texas, North Carolina, Florida and California.

TESTIMONIALS

Mission team members shared a number of compelling reports about individuals who responded positively to the presentation of the Gospel in Brazil.

Stones will cry out

Carlos Meza, pastor of Calvary Spanish Mission Church in Shreveport, made use of her knowledge of Spanish in Portuguese-speaking Brazil to share about Jesus with a young Bolivian girl who was under the influence of Jehovah Witnesses.

He said one of the highlights of the trip “was using a mannequin” to lead a young man to the Lord while conducting street evangelism in a small village.

“I started ‘witnessing’ to the mannequin using an evangelism tract,” in order to attract the attention of passers-by, Meza said.

“A young man stopped and said, ‘Mister that mannequin can’t talk or read,’ and I asked him if he could,”

Meza explained. “When he said, ‘Of course I can,’ I handed him the tract, he read it and after a brief explanation of the Gospel he said, ‘I believe



EVERY TONGUE CONFESS: Lupe Meza, a member of Calvary Spanish Mission Church in Shreveport, made use of her knowledge of Spanish in Portuguese-speaking Brazil to share about Jesus with a young Bolivian girl who was under the influence of Jehovah Witnesses.

every word the tract says’ and he surrendered his life to Christ!”

“Yes, God can use a mannequin to lead someone to His kingdom. To God be the Glory!” Meza exclaimed.

Every tongue confess

His wife Lupe was a member of the medical services team which included a pediatrician, ophthalmology staff and a physician and nurse, as well as other volunteers.

She said a particularly special blessing was sharing the Gospel with an “18-year-old girl from Bolivia.”

“It was so unusual to witness to someone in Spanish while in Brazil,” where Portuguese is the official language, Lupe Meza said.

“She was so young, and it was apparent she had been influenced by the Jehovah Witnesses,” Meza

observed. “I felt I had to be gentle, so as not to frighten her or make her feel like I was being pushy.”

The girl had a blank look early on, Meza shared. But after carefully explaining about Jesus as the Son of God, “she accepted Christ, and she was at church service Sunday night!”

Blind shall see

In all, the medical outreach effort responded to the health needs of almost 700 community members, Monday through Friday, including free prescription eyeglasses for about 350 individuals with vision problems.

But team members also inquired about the spiritual condition of everyone who came to the clinic and 106 were recorded as professing Christ as Lord.

Sue Johns, a member of First Baptist Church in Graceville, Florida, who came

with her son, Brent Johns, administrative and discipleship pastor at First Baptist Church in Houma, was one of several volunteers with the ophthalmology team who helped fit individuals with eyeglasses – matching right and left eye measurements for near and far vision, astigmatism, as well as reading clarity.

Johns said two older patients stood out in her mind.

A 72-year-old man had heard the Gospel several times during his visit to the eye clinic, and while waiting for Johns to find a pair of glasses which matched his vision needs, “he came under the conviction of the Holy Spirit” and began singing a hymn, Johns said. “He had fallen away from church for some time and I prayed with him to get right with God and get back into church.”

During the Sunday night service he found me before the service to say “I am here,” she added, and after the message, he went forward and “prayed to ask Christ to forgive his sins.”

Johns also told of a frail woman well past 80 years of age, who was almost blind and lived alone with her dog.

“She was frequently falling because of her lack of vision and church members were worried about her,” she said.

“We were able to find her some very strong prescription glasses,” Johns recalled, “allowing her to see the top 3 lines on the eye chart and do close up reading. She came in unable to read at all and unable to see the chart. We were all very emotional when we saw that smile come on

her face when she realized she could see.”

Captives set free

Tamarah Wales, who was raised at First Baptist Church in Lafayette and is a member at Family Life Church, Lafayette, served as a member of the street evangelism team which had a unique prison visit.

Wales said they typically encounter “some difficulty” when they try to minister to inmates.

“The warden and his assistant came out to talk to the team and just like at other facilities there was some reluctance to let us in,” she explained. “But during the course of the conversation, we had the opportunity to share the Gospel with them and both trusted Christ.”

“After that they allowed us to go to every area of the prison to talk with the prisoners,” Wales said, adding, “and the warden and his assistant led the way. We witnessed almost 300 salvation decisions that day!”

Bread of Life (& Gumbo)

June Charrier and Lisa Breaux conducted a unique cooking ministry while in Brazil.

Charrier, wife of church planter Louis Charrier, both members of Washington Baptist Church in Opelousas, and Breaux, a member of First Baptist Church in Lafayette, provided a gumbo meal as an enticement for influential individuals – who were unsaved and resistant to home visits or invitations to attend worship services – to hear the Gospel.

Charrier mentioned in particular the meal at First Baptist Church in Veneza where 30 people had gathered for what was billed as “a Louisiana specialty prepared by Americans.”

“We cooked dinner and a dessert and shared a little bit about the history of gumbo and its origins with African slaves,” she said.

“After the meal the people listened to a message on ‘Who needs Jesus’,” she continued, “and they were given a chance to repent of their sins and submit their hearts and lives to Jesus as Lord.”

When the prayer ended, Charrier said she looked up and four men had been saved – a vice mayor, city attorney, well-known businessman and church “member” who had been the subject of many prayers by the congregation, according to the pastor.

Breaux summed up for both of them the joy they take away from their cooking ministry. “It reminds us a little gumbo goes a long way, even to eternity,” she said.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jenkins said the group intends to return to Belo Horizonte next year to

See BRAZIL on 8

Brazil Mission Trip

The Lame Leap

A man with severely bowed legs had suffered his whole life from the extreme curvature of his bones. Painfully making his way to a local store, he passed through a plaza where the street evangelism team had set up speakers to share the Gospel with shoppers. Just listening with mild curiosity as he walked by, he suddenly felt complete relief from the constant aching he had always experienced. So he stopped to pay serious attention as the group repeated their message. Afterward, he came forward to share with the Americans through an interpreter how he had been healed, and how he wanted to know more about this Jesus they had been describing, and subsequently he gave his heart to Christ. Trying to explain through the interpreter what Jesus meant to him, he said “Jesus is a drugstore” who healed his body and his soul.

Eddie Spry
Jerusalem Baptist Church
Mocksville, North Carolina



Shelter the Homeless

Sunday, July 17, our street evangelism team worked with a local homeless ministry in Belo Horizonte. During our ministry outreach, we shared the Gospel with a homeless couple and they accepted Christ. Later, we found out the pastor in charge of this ministry was able to find a home for them in another city so their baby no longer had to sleep on the streets. I’ll never forget this particular Sunday morning – worshipping untraditionally among homeless people while we shared the love of Christ! Glory to God!!!

Debbie Planchard
New Zion Baptist Church
Folsom, Louisiana





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June Charrier
Washington Baptist Church
Opelousas, Louisiana

8 Brazil Mission Trip

God's Appointment

During a home visit attempt, I was discouraged because the people were not there. But I noticed four men standing across the street and asked if I could talk with them. I went with them into a garage where we sat and I presented the plan of salvation – and all four men accepted Christ! One of the men had tears streaming down his face and asked if he could speak. He explained that his birthday was that day and that he had a dream the night before during which God told him He was going to send him a special gift for his birthday. At that point he exclaimed, "Now I know that you have brought that special gift. It is my salvation!" We all rejoiced and sang 'Happy Birthday' to him to celebrate his earthly birthday and his heavenly one.

Jerry Martin
Pine Grove Baptist Church
Castor, Louisiana

Eternal Joy

We went to one home and met an older lady and her neighbor. As we got to know them through our interpreter, the younger of the two shared she had undergone breast cancer surgery and radiation therapy but the cancer had returned, and the older woman shared she had inoperable brain cancer. We prayed for them, asking God to heal them according to His will. When I asked if they knew where they would go if they died that day, both confessed they would not go to Heaven – so I shared the plan of salvation with them. What a glorious joy came upon them as they asked Christ to come into their hearts and save them. Before, they had no hope, but now they had blessed hope of being with Jesus when they leave this world. We left them with smiles on their faces and on ours!

James Carson
Northside Baptist Church
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Divine Intervention

Brazil was incredible. My prayer leading up to the trip was for God to go before us and prepare hearts, and I saw Him do above and beyond all I had asked or imagined. I've been on multiple mission trips before, but this was my first time to be in Brazil. I was on the preaching team, but certainly didn't expect to have the opportunity to preach as much as I did. God stretched me and taught me to depend on Him so much more during this trip, and He allowed me to see Him work wonders through my weaknesses. God ordained everything so perfectly, placing me in a city with so many guys my age. They were young men, for the most part, who were swamped down in drugs, alcohol, and sexual immorality. But when they began to hear the Gospel, tears would form in the eyes of most of them almost instantly. Through my interpreter Keyla, I was able to pray with 48 individuals who came to saving knowledge of Jesus as Lord. All glory to God!

Will Currier
Greenwell Springs Baptist Church
Central, Louisiana

Brazil from page 7

build on the work accomplished in 2016.

"One of the Brazilian convention officials told us this region has more cities

with fewer believers than cities in Saudi Arabia," Jenkins explained, and he challenged Louisiana Baptists to consider joining the 2017 team that

will be going there.

"There is a place for everyone," Jenkins offered. "VBS teams, drama teams, construction teams, sports camp teams – every member of a family can find a place to plug in and I want Louisiana Baptists to seriously pray about being part of this family mission trip.

"Moreover, this is a great place to go for a first-time church mission trip," he said. "We have lodging in a safe

place, and everyone is well-fed. But most importantly, this is the place where you can faithfully do the work of an evangelist and see growth and experience growth.

Gary and Darlene Maroney agreed.

He is president of the Louisiana Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists, a multi-state organization, and both are members of East-side Baptist Church in New Braunfels, Texas.

In a note to the *Baptist Message*, they jointly expressed strong sentiments about their experiences.

"There are so many people in bondage all over the world, and we were blessed to be a part of this team who diligently fulfilled their specific assignments and saw God work miracles in the lives of 3,202 people," they said. "We are confident that there were many more individuals who made decisions for Christ, but this 'Pentecost number' represents those whose names are recorded and will be followed up by the national pastors.

"Belo Horizonte means beautiful horizon," the Maroney's explained in closing. "We were so blessed to see the spiritual horizon that stretched across that city last week and know that we were used of God to witness such beauty!!"

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LBF changes equity manager, reports budget savings, names a key hire

By JERRY LOVE

LBF Communications

ALEXANDRIA -- The Louisiana Baptist Foundation Board of Trustees met at the Louisiana Baptist Building July 26 for their third quarterly meeting of the year with the morning dedicated to meetings by the investment committee and operating committee and the afternoon spent in general session by the entire body to consider committee reports and other business.

INVESTMENT UPDATES

Lafayette's Jim Prince, who chaired the morning meeting of the Investment Committee, called on Lee Morris of Graystone Consulting, the LBF's investment consultant, to give the quarter's update on the investment managers and market conditions.

Morris noted the following market conditions as considerations for the context of his report:

-- US domestic equity market was the only positive performer for the past 12 months. All others around the world were negative.

-- Entering 2016 analyst expectations were interest rates would rise and fixed income portfolios would struggle as a result. The opposite has happened. Rates have dropped and the fixed portfolios have delivered excellent returns.

-- After six years of underperformance versus developed markets, emerging markets are starting to deliver the best performance. The firm's Global Investment Committee thinks this may be the beginning of a long term move.

-- Reminded the board that the first year with a new president is historically difficult for the markets.

Morris reviewed the individual managers with the board and made the recommendation to terminate Snow Capital due to underperformance. The money under Snow's management would be allocated to other equity managers. The LBF employs a total of 19 managers in various segments of the markets.

The second quarter saw a decrease in net assets under management.

Barbara Bell, CPA and controller for the Foundation,

reported the outflows were a result of several larger entities withdrawing funds they had accumulated to use for projects this year. Assets under management as of June 30, 2016, were \$164,618,052, a decrease of approximately \$3.2 million for the quarter.

Investment returns for the major components of the LBF portfolio were reviewed by Jim Prince, who reported the following data for March 31, 2016:

-- Short Term Fund: 0.56% Annualized Yield

-- Group Investment Fund, comprised of various market sectors: 1.44% total return

-- Diversified Income Fund, conservative income-oriented fund: 2.90% total return.

The Investment Committee also approved management policies for the Convertible Securities Fund and the Managed Futures Fund. Both funds were added to diversify the overall portfolio of the LBF.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Columbia's John Carroll, chairman of the operating committee, reviewed the operating budget which continues to reflect a surplus through the first two quarters. Revenue was still ahead of expectations while expenses have been held in check.

Jerry Love, planned giving director, reported on several new gifts received during the second quarter. Gifts for the period were mainly in the form of donor advised funds that will be used by the donors to direct gifts to a Baptist ministry. He also reported on the promotional strategy implemented earlier this year called Give-A-Gift.

The Foundation gives \$1,000 each month in 2016 to a Louisiana Baptist Church or ministry selected at random from submissions by Louisiana Baptists. The May and June recipients selected Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Philadelphia Baptist Church in Deville, respectively.

Several changes to the personnel manual were proposed, prompted by a review due to hiring a new employee, accord-

See LBF on 11

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New Life from page 5

the need as great as today for people to hear the Gospel," Townley observed. "People need the Lord Jesus but how shall they hear if we don't tell them?"

GREAT COMMISSION FOCUS

Changed lives are a reflection of the Great Commission mindset and ministry focus of Pine Ridge Baptist Church, Townley explained.

For instance, he said this summer members began an initiative to feed local and state police.

Young children put together gift bags with their handprints painted on them and the phrase "these hands back the blue," he said. Already they have fed the entire Alexandria Police Department and are

working to do the same for the police force in Glenmora, the Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office and local Louisiana State Police units.

"If we want our communities to listen to what we have to say then we must gain their respect again," Townley said. "The way you get respect is you earn it.

"Sometimes we earn it by cooking or helping in whatever way our communities need, he said. "Once people know 'how much we care' then maybe they will 'care how much we know'" Townley said, repeating a famous axiom of UCLA coach John Wooden who won 10 NCAA basketball championships using the philosophy.

"I thank God for a church family that is willing to get out there among real people in a



Pine Ridge Baptist Pastor Jason Townley prepares to baptize his cousin, Edwin, during a recent service.

real world, pointing people to Jesus," he exclaimed. "If our churches don't bring the message outside the four walls of the building then churches will die and dying is no fun.

"Jesus came so that we

could have LIFE, and that we could have it more abundantly," Townley said, recalling John 10:10. "He gave his life so we could give our life in order that others may have life!"

BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR NEEDED

Mail résumé to:
Plainview Baptist Church
c/o 2700 Toro Church Road
Hornbeck, LA. 71439 or
Email: trid411@gmail.com

Bi-Vocational MUSIC DIRECTOR

Carmel Baptist Church in Pineville is seeking a bi-vocational music director to lead blended services.

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LBF from page 9

ing to LBF Executive Director Wayne Taylor. References were deleted to a pension plan that no longer exists, travel reimbursements were tightened and other benefits were clarified, he said.

GENERAL SESSION

During the afternoon, Board President Julian Johnston of Calhoun led a review of the information presented by the Investment and Operating Committees in earlier sessions, and the board subsequently approved recommendations to terminate Snow Capital Management and reallocate assets with them to the other managers employed by the Foundation. Trustees also agreed to the personnel manual amendments.

The board also interviewed and approved the hiring of Chuck Murray of Alexandria as the new CPA and controller for the Foundation.

Taylor described Murray as having a strong background in accounting with experience in public utilities as well as healthcare and construction industries, and he said Murray would work alongside Barbara Bell, the current controller, until her retirement next year.

To learn more about the work and ministry of the Foundation, to review investment returns for its managed funds, or to see a list of current trustees, go to www.LBFinfo.org.

LOUISIANA NOTABLES

ON THE MOVE

- **Buddy Hampton** retires as pastor at Belcher Baptist Church, Belcher.
- **Kenneth Nutt** retires as Pastor of First Baptist Church, Summerfield.
- **Lamar Skinner** retires as pastor of Alabama Baptist Church, Arcadia.
- **Wes Faulk** is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Vidalia.
- **Kyle (wife Katie) Norred** is new pastor at Fryeburg Baptist Church, Dubberly.
- **Nick (wife Alysce) Parish** is the new music minister at Brookwood Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **Gabriel (wife Aubrey) McCormick** is the new pastor for Harmony Baptist Church, Glenmora.
- **Wade (wife Tracey) Allen** is the new pastor at Pilgrim Home Baptist Church, Benton.
- **Jeremy Blocker** is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Maplewood.
- **Michael Linton** is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Sulphur.
- **Edgar (wife Autumn) Bryan** is new pastor at Mt. Paran Baptist Church, Shongaloo.
- **Ralph H. (wife Julie) Hines** is the new pastor at New Ramah Baptist Church, Castor.
- **Taff Watts** is the new pastor at Alabama Baptist Church, Arcadia.

HOMECOMING

- First Baptist Church, Greensburg: **150th Homecoming**, Aug. 14, 10:30 a.m. Speaker: **David Hankins**. Music: **Reggie Bridges**. Dinner on the grounds will follow services at noon. Please join with us and our friends as we celebrate what the Lord has done for our church through the years. For more information or to get directions, please call 225.222.6580. Pastor: Tommy Smith.
- Pinehill Baptist Church, Olla: **Homecoming Service**, Aug. 14, 10:30 a.m. A Covered dish meal will follow morning service. Speaker: **Ed Smith**, Music: **Made by Mercy**. Pastor: Cory Fowler.
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Jonesboro: **Homecoming**, Aug. 14, 10:55 a.m. The church invites friends, family, former members and staff to attend this special service. Pastor: Randy Lee.
- First Baptist Church, Hornbeck: **28th annual homecoming**, Aug. 21, 11 a.m. Speaker: **Bubba Mills**. Dinner on the grounds will follow the service. There will be no evening service. Pastor: Jack Bell.
- Red River Baptist Church, Benton: **167th Anniversary/Homecoming**, Aug. 21, 10:45 a.m. A covered dish lunch will follow the service. The church invites all former staff and members to attend this special service. The church is located at 3301 E. Linton Rd. in Benton. Pastor: Josh Cagle.

REVIVAL

- First Baptist Church, Simmesport: **Revival/143rd Anniversary**, Aug. 12-14, beginning with prayer at 6:45, the revival will be at 7 p.m. nightly. A fellowship lunch will be served following services on Sunday. Evangelist: **Lyndon Longoria and family**. Pastor: Ken Austin.
- Social Springs Baptist Church, Ringgold: **Men's Event**, Aug. 13. Speaker: **Sam Moore**. Pastor: James Hester.

- Cross Roads Baptist Church, Grayson: **Revival**, Aug. 14-17. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell, chalk artist**. Pastor: Shane Duke
- Bayou Vista Baptist Church, Morgan City: **7th Annual Unity Revival Meeting**, Aug. 14, 6 p.m. Pastor: Steven Kelly
- Liberty Baptist Church, Coushatta: **Revival**, Aug. 14-17. Evangelist: **Sam Moore**. Pastor: Harry Bamburg.
- First Baptist Church, Houma: **Revive, Engage Revival**, Aug. 14-17, Pastor: Steve Folmar.
- First Baptist Church, Franklin: **7th Annual Unity Revival Meeting**, Aug. 21, 6 p.m. Pastor: Paul Vandercook
- Palestine Baptist Church, Bogalusa: **Harvest Day**, Aug. 21, Evangelist: Joe Aulds. Pastor: Fred Brumfield.
- Pine Grove Baptist Church, Bernice: **Revival**, Aug. 21-24. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell, chalk artist**. Pastor: Steve Barrett.
- Elwood Baptist Church, Forest Hill: **Revival**, Aug. 21-24. Speakers: **Keith Manuel**, LBC Evangelism, Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; **Philip Robertson**, pastor Philadelphia Baptist Church, Monday, 7 p.m.; **Bill Robertson**, LBC Pastoral Ministry, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; **James Foster**, pastor Unity Baptist Church, Wednesday, 7 p.m. Worship: **Mackey Willis Family**. Pastor: Mike Evans.

LAGNIAPPE

- Canaan Baptist Church, Leesville: The church, which is located at 19190 Hwy 8 in Leesville, **has 21 cushion pews in very good usable condition and would like to donate them to a mission or a church** that could use them. Nineteen (19) of the pews are eleven (11) feet in length and two (2) are sixteen (16) feet long, they are equipped with the hymnal holders and Communion cup holders. If interested, please contact Derrell Kay at 337.208.1962 or Pastor Morris Goins at 337.397.3434.
- Foster Road Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: **Friday Night Worship**, Aug. 12, 19, 26, 6 p.m. for fellowship, 7 p.m. worship service. Speakers: Aug. 12, **Leigh Rogers**, Dutchtown Baptist Church, Prairieville; Aug. 19, **Thomas Fletcher**, Faith Baptist Church, Baker; Aug. 26, **Rusty Reed**, Friendship Baptist Church, Baker. For more information, call the church at 225.775.0884.
- Summer Grove Baptist Church, Shreveport: **ReGroup Conference**, Aug. 13. This conference is for pastors, church staff, Sunday school Leaders, and discipleship leaders. Speakers: **Steve Parr** (pastors and staff), **Alan Raughton** (Median And Senior Adult Leaders), **Alvin Reid** (Young Adult Leaders), **Brian Mills** (Youth Leaders), **Mark Jones** (Children and Preschool Leaders), **The Met Collective** (Worship Leaders). Cost: Early registration until Aug. 11, \$25 and \$30 afterwards. For more information, contact Sean Keith at the Louisiana Baptist Convention.
- North Shreve Baptist Church, Shreveport: **The Southern Plainsmen** will be in concert, Aug. 13, 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome. A love offering will be taken. Pastor: Roy Davis.
- Elwood Baptist Church, Forest Hill: **Mt. Olive Associational Youth Rally**, Aug. 13, refreshments at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 **Chain Free from Amiable Baptist Church/Glenmora** in concert. Speaker: **Brett Faulk**. Pastor: Mike

- Evans.
- First Baptist Church, Covington: **Young at Heart Group (55+) 30th Anniversary**, Aug. 16, 9 a.m. – noon. Featured Guests: Comedian Jimmy Travis and the Foto Sisters. There will be many door prizes, refreshments, music, and wonderful fellowship. The program concludes with lunch catered by Piccadilly. Cost: \$10 (payable at the door). Register online at www.fbccov.org/ministries/adults-55 or by calling the church at 985.892.2149. Register by individual names unless you are registering and paying with one check for your group. Seating is limited and registrations are required as the caterer must be paid for all who are registered, so please contact the church before 4 p.m. Aug. 10 if you must cancel. Pastor: Waylon Bailey.
- Istrouma Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: **Total Church Life Leadership Conference**, Aug. 20, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Speaker: **Danny Akin**, president Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Cost: \$30 paid by the church if you sign up before Aug. 7. Sessions for Sunday School teachers for all age groups, deacons, committees, missions, music, finance, prayer, youth, disaster relief, security issues and many other church ministries. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration. Pastor: Jeff Ginn.
- Hebron Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **Sporting clays shoot**, Aug. 20, 8 a.m. -11 a.m. at Riverside Skeet Lodge, located on Hwy 16 at the Livingston/St. Helena Parish Line. Cost: \$60 per shooter, includes breakfast, 100 round sporting clays course, bar-b-que lunch. (Shells are not included. \$10 for non-shooters covers breakfast and lunch. Registration/breakfast is 8-9 a.m.; shotgun start, 9 a.m.; lunch, 11 a.m. The shoot will feature 4-person teams and it is open to men, women and kids. If you don't have a team, you will be placed with one. ATV and side-by-sides are allowed on the Course. Registration deadline is Aug. 14. For more information, call the church at 225.665.6278.
- First Baptist Church, DeRidder: **ReFRESH My Soul Women's Conference**, Aug. 20, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Speaker: **Beth Greer of Life & Godiness Ministries**. Cost: \$20 due at registration. Childcare will also be available at registration. For more information, contact the church office at 337.463.9047. Pastor: Josh Eubanks.
- Emmanuel Baptist Church, Lake Charles: **Understanding Islam Seminar by Dr. Steven Masood**, Aug. 20-21, Saturday 1:30-4 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. morning worship, followed by a fellowship meal at noon, seminar begins at 1:30-4 p.m. The purpose of the event is to foster an understanding of Islam and to enhance Christian ministry to the Islamic community in Lake Charles. The seminar is free and open to the public. (A love offering will be received each day.) Pastor: Mike Shamblin.
- First Baptist Church, Ponchatoula: **"A Night of Instrumental Praise"** by the SEL-CCO Orchestra, Aug. 21, 6:30 p.m. This is a combined church orchestra concert with instrumentalists from all across southeastern Louisiana. It will be a worship service of orchestra alone music plus several congregational hymns. This is an event for all churches and anyone is welcome. Pastor: David Cranford.
- Hebron Baptist Church, Bush: **Night of Southern Gospel**, Aug. 21, 5:45 p.m. For more information, contact Kay at 985.249.1675. Pastor: Reggie Ogea.

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Each month in 2016 the Louisiana Baptist Foundation will award a gift to a Louisiana Baptist Church or Ministry. Help choose the recipient by completing the form below and returning to the address listed. If your submission is selected (at random), \$1000.00 will be sent to the ministry you have chosen.

The person selected for July, who wishes to remain anonymous, chose Woodridge Baptist in Shreveport to be the recipient of \$1000 because they reach the community with the love of Christ, meeting needs that often go unnoticed.

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For information, rules and a link to on-line submission, go to: www.baptistmessage.com/give-a-gift/

Scripture Crypto

The Scripture Crypto is a Bible verse in which one letter has been substituted for another, thus encoding the verse. To find out what the verse is, you must determine what each letter is a substitute for. An "a," for example, may stand for a "t" in this week's issue of the ScriptureCrypto. Next week, "a" could stand for a "d." Each week, each letter is different. Solve by trial and error. The answer will be given next week. Note: All numerals, such as those in the scripture reference after the verse, are spelled out.

kvr oqj ygehr yqkff ksmrj ev qmy lmomjy, kvr

yqkff levybpj qmy shkvlqjy, kvr rjtebh oqjp,

sjlkbyj ex oqjmh egv lebvyjfy.

Qeyjk jfjtjv:ymc

Clues: F = L; K = A

Answer to July 28 Scripture Crypto: Acts twenty-two: nine

IMAGINE A WORLD WITH CP AND WITHOUT CP

IMB
CP is a Gospel passport to take Jesus to people way over here!

NAMB
CP City is part of a state-to-state network that shares Jesus with the U.S.A.!

YEC, CEC, DR, BCM and more!
It's all around the border. Take a look!

CP City helps provide a ticket to seminary so we can follow God's call to ministry.

LC is awesome and affordable thanks to CP. I'm growing in Christ and getting a world class education. #andthensome

Lights, camera - outreach! CP helps Here for You spots visit every heart in the state.

CP City is in expansion mode! 300 new churches in LA by 2020!

"Let your eyes roam around the border of this sheet for the big picture of CP City at its finest!"

How CP City Works
When you put your tithe in the offering plate, part of your gift is used for missions & ministries outside the walls of your church. It's mind-blowing what happens in CP City - check it out!

Welcome to CP City!
A COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE THE GREAT COMMISSION IN LOUISIANA AND BEYOND.

Our international missionary force continues to shrink as fewer unreached people groups are engaged.

The darkness in North America grows as fewer churches are planted to spread the Gospel.

Seminary students buy, sell and trade old textbooks for self-study courses.

BCM's around the state have no campus minister or facilities.

Pastors and families don't receive the counseling that can help save their marriage and their ministry.

"I guess this makes our 32nd special offering of the year."

Churches that are plateaued or dying would have no place to turn to Reset their ministry.

"What happened to all the camps and events around the state?"

Welcome to Uncooperania
HOME OF CHAOS, ISOLATION, COMPETITION AND RANDOMNESS



LouisianaBaptists.org/CP