

“A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great.”

— Psalms 18:16 (NIV)

BAPTIST Message

Newsjournal for Louisiana Baptists

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August 3, 2017

Baptisms strengthen bond between young friends

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

TYLER, Texas — Two young men from Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria entered camp expecting to spend quality time with one another, but in the end left for home with something even more special that strengthened their friendship bond — a memory of their unplanned baptisms in early July.

An out-of-state destination for a number of Louisiana Baptists, Pine Cove Christian Camp in Tyler, Texas, offers campers the opportunity to be baptized at the end of their week of faith building and summer fun.

Andrew Cole and Colin Renois — both ten years old — had accepted Christ at a younger age but had not yet followed through with baptism. But when the opportunity was presented at Pine Cove, Cole and Renois

See BOND on 8



Ken Taylor photo

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary students pray with a Brazilian during a mission trip to the country. The students were part of a team that took a week-long boat trip down the Amazon River to share the Gospel.

NOBTS team spreads hope along Amazon

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

BRAZIL — Robert Spinks and his New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary mission team took a week-long boat trip down the Amazon in June, stopping along the way to share the Gospel message in homes and villages, reaping a harvest of 1,100 souls.

Spinks and his team of eight seminary students faced a range of spiritual obstacles, but relying on Christ, he said, helped them persevere amid distractions of crying babies and threats of roving animals.

“I had a front row seat to see God work among the people of the Amazon River,” Spinks said. “Had it not been for the prayers, support and obedience of many others, I am convinced I would have missed this blessing. My life

was changed, and I know this sounds cliché, but I did not come back home the same way I left.”

AMAZON HOPE

The seminary team joined 21 others for the May 31-June 8 trip, working with an organization named Amazon Hope which owns a boat that stays on the Amazon River. During the trip, the group slept and ate most of their meals



Along the Amazon River, a Louisiana mission team from NOBTS saw 1,100 accept Christ.

afloat.

During the day, they conducted eye clinics, distributed flip flops, led worship in churches and shared Christ in homes. Reaching some homes meant docking and then traveling by a smaller boat up to 15 minutes away to present the Good News, mostly via an interpreter.

See AMAZON on 5

Monroe ministry ‘the wings of angels’ for critically ill

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

MONROE — Lydia Headrick will tell you her battle with cancer has not been an easy journey, but she also is quick to say it has been a little more bearable thanks to the encouragement she has received from pilots volunteering their time to fly her from northeast Louisiana to treatments at MD Anderson



Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. Diagnosed in August 2016, Headrick credits Pilots for Patients for her emotional healing.

“The staff at the hangar and the volunteer pilots worked together in such a compassionate way to see that I arrived in Houston on time for my appointments, chemo treatments, and surgery,” said Headrick, a member of New



Pilots for Patients photo

See WINGS on 6

Eddie Wren to be nominated for LBC president

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

RAYVILLE – Eddie Wren will be nominated for the office of president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention during the 2017 LBC Annual

Meeting.

Steve Horn, pastor of First Baptist Church in Lafayette, plans to nominate Wren for the position.

Wren, who serves as pastor of First Baptist Church in Rayville, is the only an-

nounced candidate for the office.

Horn said he has known Wren since their time as students at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and added that his respect for Wren as a husband, father, pastor and friend has grown strongly through the years.

"I am pleased to nominate Dr. Wren because I believe he cares about the issues that most Louisiana Baptists care most about," Horn said in a written statement to the *Baptist Message*. "He is committed to a strong belief in the inerrancy, infallibility, and inspiration of the Bible which reveals itself in his preaching. He is passionate about the evangelism of all people—those in Rayville, the state of Louisiana, the United States, and the nations. He believes all ought to hear and all can

be saved.

"He is committed to our cooperative work as Louisiana Baptists and Southern Baptists," Horn continued.

"The evidence of that commitment is his involvement in the work at every level of Southern Baptist life – the local church, the local association, the state convention, and our Southern Baptist Convention.

In addition, he is a strong advocate of the Cooperative Program, having recently led his church to take part in The Pledge, an initiative to increase Cooperative Program giving."



First Rayville Pastor Eddie Wren

Wren said if elected he will continue his passion of soul-winning by helping continue the emphasis on the Harvest, Louisiana Baptists' campaign to "pray for every home

and share Christ with every person" in the state.

"I'm certainly honored that Steve would nominate me," Wren said. "After praying about it, I sensed the Lord's leadership in it. We've had good men leading as LBC president since I've been here, so it would be an honor to follow them.

"Our greatest need is to get back to sharing the Gospel of Jesus and I'm excited Louisiana Baptists have decided to do that through the Harvest," he continued. "That's what we're called to do – take the

See WREN on 8

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Let freedom ring!

BY PHILIP CAPLES

Louisiana College

PINEVILLE (LBM)

--While reading through the book of Galatians recently, I was reminded of a very important word: "freedom."

In Chapter 1, verse 5, Paul stated, "It was for freedom that Christ has set us free," (NIV) and according to Ronald K. Fung, this use of the word "freedom" references the Christian being free from subservience to the Law.

"Hence the Galatians must stand firm in this freedom and refuse to submit again to the yoke of slavery," Fung wrote in "The Epistle of the Galatians" volume of the New International Commentary of the New Testament.

The subject of freedom is not foreign within the Book of Galatians. For example, Paul references the cost of freedom in his statement about the substitutionary atonement of Christ in Gal. 1:3-5 and in his allegorical use of Sarah and Hagar in Gal. 4:21-31.

Freedom is not foreign to an American citizen either.

Independence Day marks

an important event concerning Americans' freedom. On that day our forefathers signed the Declaration of Independence, stating, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Moreover, we need to remember that spiritual and physical freedom are not for the few.

While the Declaration of Independence identifies "all men" as deserving of the rights contained therein, the Bible declares, "everyone" who calls upon the name of the Lord in repentance and faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior "shall be saved" (Romans 10:13, NIV).

Therefore, what can we do to enhance freedom across our nation?

We need to become more vocal with the Gospel.

Paul was very vocal in rebuking the message of bondage touted by his Judaizing opponents. He wanted the Galatian believers to move



beyond mere legalism and to live for Christ in both word and deed.

Applying this teaching, Dr. Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, wrote an excellence article entitled, "The Superb Right and Tragic Wrong of the SBC Alt-Right Resolution." Patterson correctly addressed the controversial nature of the resolution on White Supremacy but also challenged Southern Baptists that speaking out is essential to advancing the Kingdom of

God.

Specifically, Patterson wrote, "Following the teach-

ings of our Lord, appropriate attitudes and behaviors must

See **FREEDOM** on 4

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Freedom from page 3

ensue. And when we speak against something, as we sometimes must, we do have to be fair...."

We also need to stand up for the rights of others.

Paul used the imperative phrase "stand firm" (Gal. 5:1) to make this point, urging his audience to live a Christian life in the face of the oppression and temptations of this "present evil age" (Gal. 1:4).

In a contemporary context, we need to stand firm against the injustices associated with the lack of freedom so many people face in the world today. The scourge of human trafficking should cause every Christian to stand firm for the rights of women and children, who do not have an audience of

significant influence. Likewise, we should stand firm for religious freedom within the public school system.

In each case, being always aware that one person's voice and stance can make a difference.

I remember serving in a small church in Northeast Mississippi when one family in the community threatened the opportunity for our children to read the Bible and pray at school before classes began each day. Instead of remaining silent, Christians stood firm together.

After several months, our loving but firm stance reaped a spiritual harvest when the Lord saved two people who had opposed prayer in the school. This move of the Lord brought

personal transformation to these individuals and ensured the freedom of all the students at that school to pray and read the Bible voluntarily on campus.

In the same manner, Christians need to stand firm together nationally to protect the religious freedom of students across our great land.

As the Psalmist wrote, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen for His own inheritance" (Psa. 33:12, NASB).

Moreover, having been set free from sin through the atoning work of Christ, believers need to make a difference while we can.

Just as Paul commanded the Galatian believers to keep standing firm in their freedom, he also urged them to "not be subject again to a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 5:1b, NASB).

Making a great point about the application of this passage, Bible scholar Timothy George wrote in his volume about Galatians

in the New American Commentary:

"When Paul listed the various graces included in the 'fruit of the Spirit' (5:22-23), freedom was not included among these desirable virtues. This is because freedom is already presupposed in each one of them. Thus the fruit of the Spirit is freedom—freedom to love, to exude joy, to manifest peace, to display patience, and so on."

Basically, he is underscoring that in our freedom we can make a difference by loving God and loving others. The love of God will help others understand the freedom found in Christ, which will lead to them enjoying their freedom within our nation.

I encourage Louisiana Baptists to embrace their spiritual and physical freedom because we can help others to experience and enjoy their freedom.

One way to help others is by bearing one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the Law of Christ. To

bear one another's burdens means to come alongside a burdened brother or sister for the purpose of restoring such a one in the spirit of gentleness (Gal. 6:1-2).

I remember walking with a family through a very difficult time. They had harbored ill feelings toward one another for years. The entire family faced depression, frustration, and alienation from each other. Through much counseling, prayer, repenting, and forgiveness, this family reengaged their freedom in Christ and began to let freedom ring within their family and community.

We have all types of problems and circumstances plaguing our communities across America. The cure for our nation lies within the hearts of Spirit-empowered Christians willing to stand firm in the freedom of the Gospel, seeking to live in the terms of the Gospel rather than allowing a yoke of slavery to weigh them down. Would you join me in letting freedom ring within our families, across our communities, and across our nation? We can make a difference, if we are willing to follow the leadership Christ.

Philip Caples is vice president for the integration of faith and learning, and, dean of the School of Missions and Ministries with Louisiana College.

This column is part of a series of commentaries provided by LC faculty relating to the Southern Baptist Convention's calendar of special emphasis issues, which in this edition of the Baptist Message is religious liberty.

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Ken Taylor photo

A New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary mission team participates in a worship service at a church in Brazil. The mission trip to the country saw more than 1,100 people accept Christ.

Amazon from page one

STEPS OF FAITH

Among the more memorable encounters for Ken Taylor, NOBTS missions professor and pastor of Gentilly Baptist Church in New Orleans, was the conversion of several members of a family during the final day the team spent in the town of Novo Remanso.

Spinks and his crew entered the home to discover the wife was a Christian but her husband was not. Grateful for the visit, she welcomed them in with the hope that her spouse would ask Jesus' forgiveness and commit his life to Christ.

Not only did the husband make a profession of faith, but their granddaughter did as well.

"When we were invited into the home I assumed that the 69-year-old husband was going to be satisfied with where he was in life," Taylor said. "As (team member Yongseung Noh) shared the Gospel, this man was obviously moved. After he prayed to receive Christ he had a tear

in his eye and gave a 'thumbs up.'

"His wife expressed joy that she was now not the only believer in the house," Taylor added.

Taylor said another special memory was witnessing a 92-year-old man accept Christ on the front porch.

His son, who already was a Christian and training for a career in ministry, requested the team visit his father.

"Not long after our walk across the boardwalk and into the home, we were introduced to the father," Taylor said. "The family was showing us the piranhas that would come out of the water to fetch some food.

"However, there was nothing like catching someone for Christ," Taylor emphasized.

The team saw many decisions during home visits, but the largest number of conversions took place during the eye clinics and flip-flop distributions. In one town 800 people accepted Christ, giving the local Baptist church—which had just 11 people in

worship the Sunday before -- hundreds of prospects for follow up in the weeks to come.

"This small church joined us fully in the work," Taylor recalled. "Nine or 10 of the members joined us in going from house to house. One teenager not only accompanied us, but received an EvangeCube so that she could continue the work of evangelism in her community."

UNITED IN CHRIST'S LOVE

Living in tight quarters aboard the boat was a unique experience not just for the NOBTS team but also for the entire Amazon Hope group, which included other Americans as well as Brazilians, Koreans and Taiwanese.

Robby Ridgeway said aside from seeing a harvest of souls, the Christian unity among everyone on the trip was his favorite part of the mission effort.

"We had some of the sweetest and purest times of worship that I have ever experienced in my life," Ridgeway said. "One day during one of the times of worship, in which we were singing in Korean, English, and Portuguese, I

realized what was so special about this time. We were able to experience a glimpse of what Heaven will be like; nations from around the world coming together to worship one Lord and Savior.

"We all experienced a new closeness with Jesus, because we were worshiping in a way that we seldom are able to," he continued. "Though we are seldom able to worship in this way, we were all created to do so."

Yongseung Noh, a student from Korea, said the mix of nationalities revealed God's unique design for people of all cultures to come together and share the Gospel.

"Especially I am not that good at language except Korean," Noh said in an e-mail to the *Baptist Message*. "Even

my English was worse than the Brazilian interpreter of my team. I have never learned Portuguese, and, moreover, it's hard to communicate with co-workers in English. It was amazing, however, that God made the weakness turned into the strength, and also He can use the broken vessels. We have watched God's beautiful performance with the broken instruments through the mission trip."

Furthermore, Noh learned that he is nothing, but Jesus is everything.

"The kingdom of God is building up by His hands because that is His mission," he said. "But He works through the people who exhaustively obey Him. For when I am weak, then I am strong because mighty God is in me."

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Wings from page one

New Hope Baptist Church in Monroe. "I had to go so many times, and long car trips would have been next to impossible because I was so sick. Because of this wonderful ministry, I was able to participate in a clinical trial with excellent results.

"Whenever I speak to others about Pilots for Patients, I always refer to it as a ministry; everyone associated with it has prayed for me," she continued. "Pilots for Patients has literally fulfilled Jesus' words in Matthew 26:36, where He said 'I was sick and you looked after me,' and in verse 40 where He said, 'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'"

FLIGHTS OF MERCY

Founded in 2008, the Monroe-based organization provides air transportation at no cost to qualified patients in need of diagnosis and

treatment at medical facilities not available locally. Approximately 120 pilots volunteer their time in what they consider a true calling to people who are in need of hope.

During its first year of existence, the organization recorded 100 flights. By the end of 2016, that number had increased to more than 3,000 missions. Through mid-June, pilots have completed 277 flight missions this year alone.

CALLING FROM GOD

Mark Blair, who has completed 45 missions in his two years with the organization, considers his work with Pilots for Patients a calling from God.

"It's a reasonable service for a Christian to give back in the ways God has blessed us," said Blair, who splits time between Alexandria, where he attends Calvary Baptist Church, and Baton



Pilots for Patients photo

Glenn Northcutt (left) shares a smile with a patient he used to carry on his plane as part of his volunteer service with Pilots for Patients organization. Northcutt was the organization's 2016 Pilot of the Year.

Rouge, where he attends the Chapel on the Campus of LSU. "It allows us to pursue our hobby of flying while doing something positive.

"I know the patients are very thankful to be flown, but I tell them all the blessing goes both ways," he said. "I can hardly wait to get home to plan my next flight because I know I have served a vital role in a person's life for that time. The pilots don't do it for any recognition or pay. It's more of a calling to give back to God what He's given to us."

For the organization's 2016 Pilot of the Year, Glenn Northcutt, flying various

missions is a cause that hits close to home.

At the age of 48 Northcutt has lost both his wife and mother to breast cancer, which he says allows him to better relate with the patients he transports to Little Rock, Ark., Memphis, Tenn., or Houston, Texas. Last year alone, he flew more than 60 missions.

"I know the situation these people are in: It is one of desperation," said Northcutt, a member of Temple Baptist Church in Ruston. "I hope that what I do honors both my mom and my late wife. I am blessed to be a 787 pilot for United and God


has blessed me in many, many ways. I try every day to be the best Christian man that I can and I feel as though this is just one way that I can use what God has blessed me with to help others in their time of need."

Likewise, though U.S. Rep. Ralph Abraham is busy representing his constituents in Washington, D.C., he still makes time to fly with Pilots for Patients on occasion. He has flown on various missions with the organization for nearly five years and plans to continue when his schedule allows.

"We receive more of a blessing than the patient does," said Abraham, a member of Alto Baptist Church. "If you have to drive from northeast Louisiana to Houston, the trip is cut from eight to under two hours by plane.

"Hopefully, for a short period of time, we become their family," he continued. "Every mission is different and every patient is special. I'm just honored to be a very small part of a great organization that simply reaches out and helps those who need help at that particular time in their life."

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Texas youth help Jennings residents 'bounce' back from lingering flood damage

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

JENNINGS – More than 200 students from Texas traveled to southwest Louisiana in mid-July to help a dozen homeowners bounce back from damage caused by the August 2016 floods.

For a week, the middle and high school students from the organization Bounce Student Disaster Recovery worked to repair homes still wrecked by the previous high water.

During the day, the students installed flooring, painted walls,

built wheelchair ramps and re-roofed homes. First Baptist Church in Jennings provided housing for the students and Bounce team leaders provided meals.

Brian Wells, minister of education and senior adults at First Baptist Jennings, said the students' labor of love in the community left behind many seeds planted in the lives of the homeowners and other residents.

"People from our community and parish were very grateful for them coming in and providing an expression of God's

love, compassion and hope," Wells said. "To see people still concerned after 11 months and wanting to help really put us as the church in a good light."

Wells recalled the joy and gratitude he encountered at each site he visited.

"They would come to tears when you asked them about the help they were given," Wells said. "One senior adult has been going down five steps to get out of the house and a team built a wheelchair ramp to help her make it down without such a strain on her body."

"To see these kids actually living out that testimony of praying with people was a blessing to my heart," he continued. "Seeing that large number of kids in a unified heart was really a good thing."

Bounce participant Jamie Buford reiterated the appreciation shown by the homeowner who received the new ramp.

"Being able to go out and provide a service for someone who can't do it for themselves or can't afford to do it, I think



Sara Drott photo

A team from Bounce Student Disaster Recovery in Texas helped repair a home that was damaged by the August 2016 flood in Jennings.

Camp Fuego inspires kids to be 'on fire' for Christ

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

EUNICE – Standing before a room full of 400 students inside the Acadian Baptist Center gymnasium, Brad Lewter issued a challenge during the final moments of Camp Fuego, asking students to be "on fire" for Christ in their hometowns and schools.

"Things that make you more like Jesus, give yourself over to those things," said Lewter, camp pastor for the week. "What will flow out of that is a love for your neighbor, for your classmates. Find that person who doesn't have a lot of friends and be that light."

Lewter's message during Middle School Week at Acadian Baptist Center came on the heels of a six-week run at Camp Fuego. Camp director Jeff Luce estimates about 2,500 middle and high school students attended one of five camps and another 200 came to the children's camp.

The camp has grown by leaps and bounds since moving to Acadian Baptist Center in 2011, with attendance far surpassing the 250 participants who attended the inaugural camp 20 years ago.

This year, 80 campers made a first-time decision to follow Christ, 70 repented to restore their fellowship with Christ and 62 surrendered to Christian ministry.

Luce said the investment by the massive volunteer staff helps build an atmosphere in which campers are willing to open up to them about personal struggles, many times

leading to a spiritual decision.

Additionally, the money saved by not having a paid staff helps keep the camp affordable.

See FIRE on 9

See BOUNCE on 8

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Bond from page one

eagerly jumped at the chance to be baptized in a swimming pool.

Surrounded by a handful of family members and friends who made the trip with them, each boy stepped into the water and was baptized by Todd Strain, connections pastor at Calvary Baptist, who was attending the same camp with his wife and children.

Andrew's dad, Philip, was emotional as his son was baptized.

"Andrew had previously talked to us about salvation and accepted Christ as Lord and Savior of his life," he said. "While at camp he began to realize how that personal relationship would manifest in his

daily life. This led to his desire to be baptized during our week there. It was such a sweet time,

we were with a great group of friends and were able to share that experience with him. One of his best friends was baptized that same day, strengthening their friendship and making them true brothers in Christ."

Colin was

nearly speechless as he recalled his baptism.

"It was moving because it's just a spiritual place and makes me feel at home," Renois said. "It felt just the right time."

"It's important to get baptized because it shows people how you love Christ and how you want to show people how it works," Renois said. "It was



Todd Strain baptizes Colin Renois at Pine Cove in Tyler, Texas.



Submitted photo

The friendship of Colin Renois and Andrew Cole was strengthened after their baptism by Todd Strain, connections pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria. The two boys also are members of Calvary.

just an example that I believed in my heart that I was supposed to be baptized."

His mom, Kasey, said the camp was the perfect setting to end the week on such a memorable note and will provide

extra meaning for when he and his family return next summer.

"It was so sweet to know he will always have this memory when he returns," Kasey Renois said. "This is our little piece of Heaven. Colin getting baptized there is just the cherry on top."

Bounce from page 7

that's what being a Christian is really about," Buford said. "I think we look past the fact, too often, that God calls us to give to others and we just look at what we get from Christianity."

Dominic Lara said the week gave her a chance to put her faith into action by serving others.

"Instead of thinking about yourself and 'What I want to do,' you're thinking about 'What do others need from me,'" Lara said. "And I think that's really important about Bounce."

By the end of the week, Kamryn Martinez said she was reminded of how they were used to restore hope, rebuild the community and above all reflect Christ.

"It's not all about you," Martinez said. "There are other people in this world who go through so much more than you. So it's cool to hear other people's testimony and see the things that they do."

Sam Moore, Evangelistic Ministries

479-381-1170, sam@evangelistsammoore.com

Sam Moore is a vocational evangelist. He has the gift of an evangelist and the heart of a pastor. He is available for revivals, crusades, Harvest Days and witness training. Call or email to schedule your 2017 events.

www.evangelistsammoore.com



Wren from page 2

Gospel and make disciples. If our churches and our leaders would focus on sharing the Gospel it would cure a lot of ills within the church."

Since Wren became pastor of First Baptist Rayville in October 2010, average

Sunday school attendance has increased from 237 to 333, according to Annual Church Profile statistics. The church averages 400 in worship attendance each Sunday (an increase of 100 during his tenure) and from 2011 to 2016, the church baptized 152 people.

First Baptist Rayville gives 10 percent through the Cooperative Program to support cooperative missions, ministries and theological education in Louisiana, North America and throughout the world. Their efforts to share the Gospel include local outreach by the church's students, mission trips to Honduras and Nicaragua, a monthly worship service at a nursing home in Rayville and hosting Celebrate Recovery every Thursday.

A native of Tupelo, Miss., Wren earned Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He also holds a bachelor's degree from Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

Before accepting a call to First Baptist, Rayville on Sept. 26, 2010, Wren served as pastor of Green Valley Baptist in Pontotoc, Miss., Bissell Baptist in Tupelo, and First Baptist Butler, Ga.

Wren and his wife, Stacy, have four children, Sam, Meri Hobbs, Eli and Noah.

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LC alum Don Hill completes \$100K donor challenge



LC alum Don Hill

BY NORM MILLER

LC News

PINEVILLE – Louisiana College announced in December 2015 a \$100K donor challenge from an alumnus who wanted others to join his efforts in underwriting campus beautification projects.

Alumni and friends of LC responded, but only reached the halfway mark.

After prayer and consideration, alumnus Don Hill and

his wife Terry stepped up with the remaining \$50,000, thus completing the \$100K challenge.

"This gift is transformational for the campus and helps build the spirit of community," said Rick Brewer, president of LC. "I am profoundly grateful for the philanthropy of Don and Terry Hill. They have invested in curb appeal at LC, which is the third most significant consideration of college-bound students. While we are thankful for how the Hills' gift will improve our campus, we are even more enthused by their example and the unified heart that inspires them."

The Hills already demonstrated their generosity toward LC when Don joined LC's Board of Visitors in 2015 to support a scholarship fund that goes wholly and solely to qualified students.

Don – a 1964 summa cum laude alumnus of LC – also served as Student Government Association President.

His gift will fulfill a long-time goal of LC's SGA by providing lights and landscaping to the campus Quad, a popular area on the campus.

Don began his career with IBM and is now president of DMH & Associates, a company that provides consulting and marketing services to clients in the financial services industry.

As an entrepreneur and restaurateur, he was instrumental in founding Salt Grass Steak House and Lupe Tortilla.

After graduating from LC, Don earned a Master's degree

in Statistics from Florida State University.

Norm Miller is Louisiana College's Vice President for Communications and Integrative Marketing.

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Fire from page 7

"Every single week we hear incredibly tragic stories of kids who are dealing with self-harm, or are considering suicide or even have been abused in the family home," Luce said. "This may be the very first time they have told anyone about these situations."

"As tragic as those are, we know that when we have an opportunity to just get them out of that situation and spend five days with them, that they tell the story for the first time and it's the first step they take in recovering from those," he continued. "It's truly been incredible just to see what's happened in the past 20 years with some of those students."

Bell Mayeux, a member of Istrouma Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, said the camp helped her relax and draw closer to the Lord.

"It's so much fun being able

to connect with people and being able to learn more about God through worship and service and being around your friends," Mayeux said. "You get to play games and get to know God. What's not to like about that?"

Lewter said seeing so many students make decisions for Christ refueled the spiritual fire in his own soul.

"It was a great opportunity to get with students, let them disconnect for a little while from outside distractions so they could hear the Gospel and be reminded of who Jesus is before we send them off and hopefully they'll live out their faith," Lewter said. "The coolest part is worship – watching sixth, seventh and eighth grade students worship Jesus and raise their hands. It certainly gives us hope for the next generation with camps like Fuego."

Louisiana
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Rose Mary Martin was selected to direct the \$1500 gift for the 2nd quarter of 2017. She chose her church, **Beulah Baptist** in Mansfield, to be the recipient and they intend to use it for benevolence in their community.

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"I have become all things to all people so that by all means I might save some."
1 Cor. 9:22

MORE INFORMATION:

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HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH in Denham Springs, LA is seeking a Financial Administrator. Preferred applicants will be those with previous experience in church finances to include contribution and financial reporting. Other applicants with a strong financial or accounting background that are willing and able to learn financial reporting for a church may also be considered. Email résumés to hebron@hebronbc.com.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH in Crowville, LA is seeking a full-time pastor. Résumés and CDs or DVDs, if available, should be mailed to: First Baptist Church Crowville, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, P O Box 38, Crowville, LA 71230. Résumés only may be emailed to: Pastor Search Committee, fbccrowville3@bellsouth.net.

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SEEKING A PASTOR

Big Level Baptist Church in Wiggins, MS is seeking a full time pastor.

Résumés may be emailed to samuel@albrittonaccounting.com or mailed to Big Level Baptist Church • Att. Search Committee 1346 City Bridge Rd. • Wiggins, MS 39577

Seeking a bi-vocational
YOUTH DIRECTOR

Macedonia Baptist Church of Effie, LA is currently seeking a bi-vocational youth director. Great opportunity for ministry and service.

Call Pastor Mike Wilkinson at **318.794.6762** or email michaelwilkinson1970@yahoo.com

Seeking a bi-vocational
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Macedonia Baptist Church of Effie, LA is currently seeking a bi-vocational music director. Great opportunity for ministry and service.

Call Pastor Mike Wilkinson at **318.794.6762** or email michaelwilkinson1970@yahoo.com

Seeking a fulltime
PASTOR

Mount Carmel Baptist Church in Florien, LA is presently seeking a fulltime pastor.

Résumés may be emailed to perrie_ryals@yahoo.com

FIRST BAPTIST ZACHARY IS SEEKING A
SENIOR PASTOR

First Baptist Church, Zachary, LA is accepting résumés for the position of Senior Pastor. Résumés should be sent to the Pastor Search Committee at pastorsearch@fbcz.org by August 28, 2017.

SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR

First Baptist Church of Delcambre, LA is seeking a bi-vocational pastor.

Please send résumés to:
First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 295
Delcambre, LA 70528

First Baptist Church Arcadia is seeking a permanent
MINISTER OF MUSIC

Send résumé to First Baptist Church, Arcadia, Attention: Search Committee 2249 Hazel St. • Arcadia, LA 71001 or email: fbcofarcadia@bellsouth.net

FULL TIME YOUTH MINISTER

Woodland Park Baptist Church is seeking a full time Youth Minister .

Mail résumés to Dr. Scott E. Thompson 1909 J. W. Davis Drive, Hammond LA 70403 or email pastor.wpbc@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church Boyce seeks a
INTERIM/BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR

Please send résumés to:
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SEEKING

A West Monroe church is seeking a contemporary/praise music worship talent (an individual or band) for church services.

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For more information, call **318.381.4251**

SEEKING PASTOR

Calvary Baptist Church of Homer, LA prayerfully seeks a pastor who

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- Loves Family & People
- Works to grow God's Church

If you fit this description and God is speaking to you, please forward your résumé and a CD if possible to:
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Search Committee
1993 Hwy 3062 • Homer, La. 71040

PART TIME YOUTH MINISTER

Fellowship Baptist Church, Trout, LA is seeking a bi-vocational/part-time youth minister.

Mail résumés to Fellowship Baptist Church 487 Fellowship Road • Trout, LA 71371 or email to fellowshipbctrout@yahoo.com

FULL-TIME PASTOR SOUGHT

Elizabeth Memorial Baptist Church in Branch, LA is seeking a full-time pastor.

Please email your résumés to Pastor Search Committee at brenda0946@yahoo.com. For more information, please call Brenda at 337.581.8508.

BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR

Bethany Baptist Church of Baywood, LA is seeking a bi-vocational Pastor.

Send resume or inquiries to bethanybaywood@outlook.com or mail to: Bethany Baptist Church 38313 Greenwell Springs Rd., Clinton, LA 70722

BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR

Willow Bayou Baptist Church is looking for a Bi-Vocational Pastor

Please send a résumé or video résumé to Willow Bayou Baptist Church 1008 Willow Bayou Rd Tallulah, La. 71282

Seeking a
YOUTH MINISTER

Bi-vocational youth minister needed for Osyka Baptist Church. Prefer 1-2 years of experience. Mature Christian who loves the Lord and is called to help youth grow in their faith, help reach lost youth and enjoy serving

Contact Osyka Baptist Church at **601.542.5972** or email résumé to osykayouthcommittee@gmail.com

ON THE MOVE

- **Larry Evans** is the new pastor at Parkerson Avenue Baptist Church, Crowley.
- **Frank (wife April) Walker** is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Carlyss.
- **Casey (wife Katie) Stark** is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Slidell.
- **Jeff (wife Susan) Smart** resigns as pastor at East Leesville Baptist Church to become the new pastor at Cook Baptist Church, Ruston.
- **Leonard Free** is the new associate pastor at Unity Baptist Church, Pineville.

HOMEcoming

- Hebron Baptist Church, Bernice: 169th annual Homecoming, August 6, 10 a.m. Dinner on the grounds following morning worship. Speaker: **Joe Aulds**. Pastor: Andy Price.
- First Baptist Church, Greensburg: **151st Homecoming**, August 13, 9:15 a.m. (Sunday school), 10:30 a.m. (worship), Noon (dinner on the grounds). Speaker: **Kevin Hand**. If you have any questions or need directions please call 225-222-6580, First Baptist Church, 6260 Hwy 10, Greensburg, LA. Everyone is welcome. Pastor: Tommy Smith.
- Cypress Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Homecoming**, Aug. 13, 10 a.m. Special Music: **Ben Waites**. Pastor: Chad Ballard.
- Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Farmer-ville: **145th Homecoming Service**, August 13, 9:45 a.m. Special Music: **Sanctuary Quartet**. Pastor: Larry Eubanks.

REVIVAL

- Magnolia Baptist Church, Saline: **Revival**, August 6-9. Evangelist: **Lyndon Longoria**. Music: Kerry Longoria. Pastor: Duane Moreno.
- Laurel Hill Baptist Church, Hicks: **Revival**, August 10-12, 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Casey Johnson**. Pastor: Wesley Jackson.
- Beulah Baptist Church, Many: **Revival**, August 13-16, Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell, chalk artist**. Pastor: Kenneth Leach.
- Fellowship Baptist Church, Greenwell Springs: **Revival**, August 13-16. Evangelist: **Tommy Kiker**. Pastor: Jeremy Pruitt.
- Freedom Baptist Church, Pitkin: **Revival**, August 13-16. Evangelist: **Lyndon Longoria**. Pastor: Jeff James.
- Palestine Baptist Church, Columbia: **Revival**, August 13-16, Sunday, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Joe Aulds**. Music: **Kathy Venable**. Pastor: Frank Shields.
- First Baptist Church, Simmesport: **Revival**, August 18-20. **Revival services** will conclude with the Sunday morning service August. 20. Evangelist: Lyndon Longoria. Special Music: **Kerry Longoria**. Pastor: Ken Austin.

LAGNIAPPE

- Foster Road Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: **Friday Night Worship**, August 4, 11, 18, 25. Fellowship meal at 6 p.m. and worship service at 7 p.m. Speakers:

- Marvin Parks, In His Hands Baptist Church**, (August 4); **Dale Phillips, Comite Baptist Church**, (August 11); **Oren Conner, First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge** (August 18); **Praise and Worship** (August 25). Pastor: Michael Morris.
- Parkerson Avenue Baptist Church, Crowley: **Back to School Splash**, August 5, 10 a.m. — 2 p.m. This is for children age 5-12. Lilly Smith is the children's leader. Pastor: Larry Evans.
- Watson Baptist Church, Watson: **A Celebration of Gaither music**, August 6, 4 p.m. Performed by the Watson Baptist Church adult choir. Pastor: John Pember-ton.
- Haile Baptist Church, Marion: **Sanctuary Quartet in concert**, August 6, 11 a.m. Pastor: Michael Murray.
- Bluff Creek Baptist Church, Clinton: **The Foto Sisters in concert**, August 6, 6 p.m. Pastor: Cole Permenter.
- First Baptist Church, Pineville: **First@First Business Leader Luncheon**, August 7, noon. Speaker: **Ginger Hisaw, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist**. Cost: \$10 and you may pay at the door. Please RSVP to Melinda Langford (mlangford@fbcpineville.net. Pastor: Stewart Hollo-way.
- His Church, Pineville: **Set Me Free Women's Conference**, August 11, 6-9 p.m. Speaker: **JoAnne Timothy**. Special Music: **Candace Churchman and Melissa Watson**. **Churchman and Chantel Wiley** will be sharing their testimony along with many other activities. Pastor: Steve Speer.

- Hebron Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **Pressing On Festival**, August 12, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. There will be free food, live music, inflatables, games, giveaways and lots of fun.
- North Monroe Baptist Church, Mon-roie: **19th annual Jennifer Robertson Memorial Praisefest**, August 12, 6 p.m. Featured Performer: **Rick Brewer, president of Louisiana College**. Special Music: **Will Robertson, Blessed Assurance, Brothers in Christ, Ben Waites, The Gospel Tones, Southern Grace, Southern Revelation, Jan Kenney, Wayne Smart, Randy Waggoner, Kathy Overturf, Tim Post, Mike Freeman, The Chordsmen, Sanctuary Quartet, Mike Loveday, Greg & Kristen Oden, Lee & Mary Ann Haynes, Darrell Robertson, Richard Ainsworth, Chad Tingle, Jimmy Coughran, Becky Breezley, and The Praise Fest Choir**. There will be a love offering taken for a scholarship at Louisiana College which bears Jennifer's name. Pastor: Bill Dye.
- First Baptist Church, Ruston: **Married People Date Night**, August 12, 5:30-7 p.m. Speakers: Comedians **Barnes and Miner**. Cost: \$5 per couple. Childcare is available for \$5. Register online at fbcRuston.or or on our Facebook page. Pastor: Chris Craig.

- First Baptist Church, Many: **4 Days Late in concert**, August 13, 11 a.m. 4 Days Late will bring the worship music during the AM worship service. Pastor: Jonathan Bost.
- First Baptist Church, Bossier City: **Set Free Tour with Big Daddy Weave along with We Are Messengers and Micah Tyler**, August 17, 7-10 p.m. Cost: \$15 - \$50. Pastor: Brad Jurkovich.
- First Baptist Church, Keithville: **Southern Jubilee Gospel Singing Convention**, August 18-19, 6 p.m. on August 18 and 5 p.m. on August 19. Worship: **Heaven's Echoes, Made By Mercy, The Kinsmen, Broken Vessels, and N Him**. Emcee: Mike Goodwin. Cost: Free admission but a love offering will be taken. For more information, call 318.925.9476 (Church) or Judy Biggers at 501. 977.6525. Pastor: Mike Stowell.
- Amite Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **The Forge**, August 18-19. For students in the sixth - 12th grades. Speaker: **Eddie Briery**. Worship: **Men Among Mountains**. Cost: \$20 per students (includes meals Saturday & t-shirts. Adults admitted free. If adults want a t-shirt the cost is \$5. For questions or more information, call Johnny Morgan 225.278.4772 or email him at johnny@liveoakbaptists.org; or Kuke Hand at 225.953.0434 or email him at coolhandlukes@yahoo.com.

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.

itd twd okrtdjgntc pgx ctj ti hosonj, ctd ti

wcsuogccoxx, ctd nc awnuo;

indxj jroxxgutengcx jpt:jrdoo

Clues:

T = O; J = T

Answer to July 20 Scripture Crypto:

Hosea thirteen: three

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