



THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

May 23, 2024

Volume 139 • Issue No. 6

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John 3:16

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LBC EB highlights insurance crisis, evangelism growth

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

WOODWORTH, La. (LBM) – During the May 7 general session of the Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Board, LBC Executive Director Steve Horn encouraged members to be passionate about sharing the Gospel.

He also provided an update about efforts to resolve the church insurance crisis plaguing congregations of all denominations across the state.

EVANGELISM MOVEMENT

Horn said that since the Aug. 1, 2023, launch of Send Network Louisiana, the evangelistic growth initiative has produced 35 church planters, with two more headed to an assessment retreat in late May and an additional 29 potential planters in the assessment pipeline. An assessment retreat center has been established



Brian Blackwell photo

Louisiana Baptist Executive Director Steve Horn updated Executive Board members about evangelism and church insurance initiatives.

with Istrouma Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, that

will allow for two retreats

See EB HIGHLIGHTS, page 9

LCU graduates challenged to be light for Christ

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – Several members of the Louisiana Christian University Class of 2024 encouraged their classmates to be a light for Christ during the college's 169th Commencement, May 4, inside Guinn Auditorium on campus.

The school conferred 195 degrees (146 undergraduate and 49 graduate) during two separate but identical ceremonies to accommodate the graduates and their



Brian Blackwell photo

Louisiana Christian University commencement ceremonies included several testimonies by graduating seniors, acting President David Jeffreys and board members.

See GRADUATES, page 11

SBC 2024:

Law Amendment biggest issue in '24

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (LBM) -- One of the biggest issues Southern Baptists will address in 2024 is a constitutional change known as the Law Amendment.

A two-thirds vote in Indianapolis would add a sixth element to Article III (which lists the qualifications for a church to send messengers to participate in the yearly business meeting) to further define that "only men" may serve "as any kind of pastor or elder" in a congregation that affiliates with the Southern Baptist Convention.

This constitutional initiative was launched in 2022 by Mike Law, who is the pastor of Arlington Baptist Church, Arlington, Virginia. He said he was moved to act after the SBC

See LAW, page 5

Transparency is another hot topic

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (LBM) -- Another hot topic for Indianapolis will be the issue of transparency, or lack of it, from the entities of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Specifically, two motions were made during the 2023 SBC Annual Meeting requesting more detailed information from entities, including the wages of the highest paid employees of each.

One asked that entities submit the same information found in IRS FORM 990 (required of all nonprofits, except churches) to the Convention. The other moved that the SBC Business and Financial Plan be amended to mandate the printing of the same type of information in the Book of Reports.

See TRANSPARENCY, page 6

Crawford ready for church planting movement

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – Jacob Crawford is on a mission to help Louisiana Baptists meet a goal of expanding God's Kingdom in the state by 1 percent

over the next decade.

As a new Send Network Louisiana church planting strategist, Crawford is excited about how planting 231 new churches by 2033 could reap eternal fruit.

See CRAWFORD, page 8

Do you have a DR 'bucket list'?

By Stan Statham
Louisiana Baptist

ALEXANDRIA, La. – In the movie “Bucket List,” the main characters played by Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman portray two terminally-ill men who embark on a road trip with a wish list of things they want to experience before they “kick the bucket.”

Those who take the

time to prepare for a disaster could save their lives or at least make surviving more tolerable by making a disaster kit out of a bucket or other container.

Also, they are in a better position to assist their neighbors and others who survived the disaster.

This is important because every disaster gives the believer an opportunity to “show” the Gospel and to share the Gospel.

The disaster relief ministry of the Louisiana Baptist Convention is championing the “Disaster Ready Church” ministry. This is a comprehensive program designed to assist churches in preparing for disasters on three levels:

- equipping individuals and families;
- empowering church leaders; and
- enabling churches to serve their communities and beyond in times of disaster.

Please reach out to me, stan.statham@lbc.org, if you would like me or a disaster relief staff member or volunteer to speak to your church or group about preparing for disas-

ters.

But because this is such an important issue in our state, I have provided some basic information below to help you prepare now.

DISASTER KIT

First, make a kit, or, as The Disaster Ready Church ministry says, “make a bucket list.”

Each family should think through what they will need. As a start, the local parish Office of Homeland Security should be able to share the most likely disasters that parish residents should prepare to endure.

The disaster relief page, www.louisianabaptists.org/dr, offers information on what items to include in your kit for each situation. However, as a minimum, a family should have on hand three days of food and water for each member.

Put these and other items in a plastic container or bucket for quick retrieval in case of an emergency evacuation.

See BUCKET LIST, page 12

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(USPS 042-860) (ISSN 0740-2104)

Published biweekly Thursdays by the *Louisiana Baptist Message*, 1250 MacArthur Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303.

Volume 139

Congrats

The below four churches have recently obtained church financing through the Louisiana Baptist Foundation and we want to say congratulations to them:



▲ Hebron Baptist Church



▲ First Baptist Church, Longville



▲ Superior Avenue Baptist Church



▲ Vatican Baptist Church



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SBC 2024: President

Six individuals have been announced as intended nominees for Southern Baptist Convention president

The following Annual Church Profile information is presented to allow readers to assess the evangelistic effectiveness of the individual's home church (per capita baptisms) as well as the congregation's financial commitment to the cooperative missions and ministries of Southern Baptists (Cooperative Program percentage of undesignated receipts). Finally, some personal information is provided about the candidate.

For comparison, the average baptism to worship attendance ratio for the entire SBC is 1:18 (226,919 baptisms, 4,050,668 average worship attendance, 2024 ACP). Also, the Convention average CP percentage is 4.59 percent (\$457,417,314 total Cooperative Program gifts for state and national causes, \$9,962,910,482 combined undesignated receipts for all congregations, 2023 SBC Annual).

SBC Bylaws, Article X "Election of Officers and Voting" provides a process for runoff elections: "If an officer does not receive a majority of votes cast on the first ballot, subsequent ballots shall carry the names of those who are included in the top 50 percent of the total votes cast in the previous ballot."

David Allen

Member, First Baptist Church, Sunnyvale, Texas: 14 baptisms, 430 average worship attendance, (1 baptism per 31 worshippers, 1:31 ratio); \$1,736,305 undesignated receipts, \$21,366 CP (1.2 percent); \$36,103 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering; \$18,500 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Criswell College: W.A. Criswell Chair of Preaching (1998-2004).

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary: board of trustees (1992-2004), vice chair (2001-03), chair (2003-04); distinguished professor of preaching; director, Center for Expository Preaching; George W. Truett Chair of Pastoral Ministry (2004-22); dean of theology (2004-16), dean of preaching (2016-22).

Md-America Baptist Theological Seminary: dean of Adrian Rogers Center for Biblical Preaching (2022-present); distinguished professor of practical theology (2022-present).

Pastor of two Texas churches; interim pastor of 13 Texas, Georgia and New Mexico congregations (names, dates unknown).

Personal: B.A., Criswell College; MDiv., SWBTS; Ph.D., University of Texas, Arlington.

Bruce Frank

Pastor, Biltmore Baptist Church, Arden, North Carolina (2008-present); 384 baptisms, 7,331 AWA (1:19); \$14,476,412 UNDES, \$235,000 CP (1.62%); \$30,000 LMCO; \$15,000 AAEO.

SBC: chair, Sex Abuse Task Force (2021-22); Bible Studies for Life advisory council, LifeWay Christian Resources (2013); president, Pastors' Conference (2014).

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Humble, Texas (1999-2008). Executive pastor, Metropolitan Baptist Church, Houston (UNK), and pastor of churches in Electra and Bluegrove, Texas (names and dates UNK).

Personal: B.B.A., Texas Tech University; MDiv., SWBTS; D.Mn., Luther Rice Seminary (Stonecrest, Georgia).

Mike Keahbone

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lawton, Oklahoma (2020-present); 59 baptisms, 594 AWA (1:10); \$1,405,425 UNDES, \$88,832 CP (6.32%); \$29,751 LMCO; \$2,325 AAEO.

SBC: Executive Committee (2021-present); Cooperation Committee (2021-22); Sex Abuse Task Force (2021-22); vice-chair, Abuse Reform Implementation Task Force (2022-present); Resolu-

tions Committee (2022).

Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma board of directors (2015-21), vice president (2017-19).

Cherokee Hills Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: pastor (2014-20), associate pastor (2012-14).

Personal: B.S., Md-America Christian University (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma).

Jared Moore

Pastor, Homesteads Baptist Church, Crossville, Tennessee (2016-present); 3 baptisms, 113 AWA (1:38); \$206,256 UNDES, \$19,266 CP (9.34%); \$4,679 LMCO; \$1,995 AAEO.

SBC second vice president (2014). Pastor, New Salem Baptist Church, Hustonville, Kentucky (2010-16).

Personal: B.A., Trinity College of the Bible (Newburgh, Indiana); MA.R., Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary; MDiv., Ph.D., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Clint Pressley

Pastor, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte (2010-present); 69 baptisms, 2,632 AWA (1:38); \$9,680,234 UNDES, \$232,089 CP (2.4%); \$244,664 LMCO,

See NOMINEES, page 5

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Nominees

from page 4

\$73,026AAEO.

SBC: first vice president (2014-15); vice president, Pastors' Conference (2013).

SBTS Board of Trustees (2015-present), chair (UNK).

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina board of directors (UNK). University of Mobile board of trustees (UNK).

Pastor of two Mississippi congregations (names and dates UNK). Associate pastor, HGBC (1999-2004). Pastor, Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama (2004-10).

Personal: B.A., Wofford College (Spartanburg, South Carolina); M.Div., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dan Spencer

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Sevierville, Tennessee (2011-present): 64 baptisms, 1,486 AWA (1:23); \$5,972,068 UNDES, \$542,915 CP (9 %); \$659,425 LMCO, \$51,952 AAEO.

SBC: speaker, Pastors' Conference (2001); Committee on Committees (2005).

Georgia Baptist Convention president (2009-11). Tennessee Baptist Mission Board (2015-19).

Personal: M.A., Liberty University.

SBC 2024: Vice President

Michael Clary

Founding pastor, Christ the King Church, Cincinnati, Ohio (2010-present): 4 baptisms, 201 AWA (1:50); \$472,854 UNDES, \$792 CP (0.17 %); \$0 LMCO, \$0 AAEO.

Personal: M.Div., SBTS.

David Crowther

Pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Wichita, Kansas (2019-present): 41 baptisms, 557 average worship attendance, (1 baptism per 14 worshipers, 1:14 ratio); \$1,455,921 undesignated receipts, \$72,635 CP (4.99 percent); \$25,833 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering; \$992 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists vice president (UNK).

Previously served churches in North Carolina, South Carolina and Kentucky (congregations and dates UNK).

Personal: B.A., Anderson University (Anderson, South Carolina); M.Div., SBTS; Ph.D., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

SBC 2024: Second Vice President

Michael Pardue

Pastor, First Baptist Church Icard, Connelly Springs, North Carolina (2013-present): 4 baptisms, 100 AWA (1:25); \$255,661 UNDES, \$22,256 CP (8.7 %); \$5,570 LMCO, \$1,805 AAEO.

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina: president (2020-2022); vice president (2018-2020); Pastors' Conference president (2015), vice president (2011); board of directors (UNK).

Pastor, High Shoal Baptist Church, Mooresboro, North Carolina (UNK).

Personal: B.A., Gardner Webb University (Boiling Springs, North Carolina); M.A., North Greenville University (North Greenville, South Carolina); Ed.D., SEBTS.

Wesley Russell

Pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Pikeville, Kentucky (2022-present): 7 baptisms, 74 average worship attendance, (1 baptism per 11 worshipers, 1:11 ratio); \$227,604 undesignated receipts, \$550 CP (0.24 percent); \$0 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering; \$400 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

Law

from page one

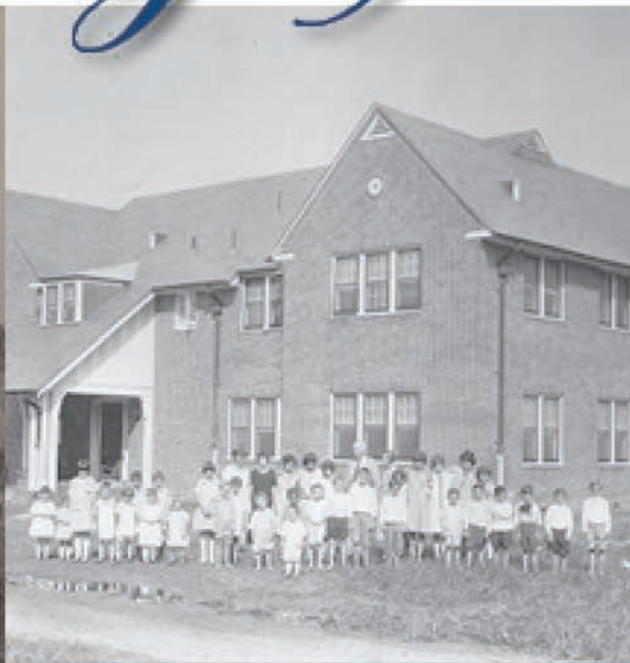
Credentials Committee delayed a decision about disfellowshipping Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California, for having ordained three female staff members as pastors in 2021.

The Baptist Faith & Message 2000 states, "While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor/elder/overseer is limited to men as qualified by Scripture." However, the committee said it could not act in 2022 "until clarity is provided regarding the use of the title 'pastor' for staff positions with different responsibility and authority than that of the lead pastor."

Law said he offered his motion to amend the Constitution to provide that clarity.

Despite a negative recommendation from the SBC Executive Committee during the 2023 SBC Annual Meeting, media reports indicated 80 percent of messengers raised ballots in favor of the Law Amendment. However, any constitutional change needs at least two-thirds approval during two consecutive annual meetings for that item to be enacted.

Legacy of Hope



CHILDREN'S HOME SUNDAY ANNUAL OFFERING

June 16, 2024 — Father's Day



Transparency from page one

Importantly, neither motion asked SBC entities to submit Form 990 to the IRS. Instead, ac-

ording to *The Baptist Paper*, the issue behind the motions is “trust” based on accountability.

One of the motion makers, Rhett Burns, pastor of First Baptist Church Travelers Rest, South Carolina, told the newspaper in February 2024 that such trust is lacking, in part, because SBC entities do not meet the minimum standard of every other nonprofit.

“We fail to clear the lowest bar. Instead of leading, we lag worldly institutions, operating in financial obscurity where Jesus tells us to walk in the light,” he said.

Some entity leaders pushed back, opposing the push for more transparency because of supposed additional costs as well as unintended consequences such as the potential of the IRS to require entities to release donor information, according to *The Baptist Paper*.

They also claim sufficient information is provided in entity audits

which are published in the SBC Annual.

However, the audits printed in the SBC Annual lack specificity, Burns said.

IRS Form 990 requires all nonprofits and charities, except churches, to list all “current officers, directors, and trustees” as well as “up to 20 current employees who satisfy the definition of key employee (persons with certain responsibilities and reportable compensation greater than \$150,000 from the organization and related organizations), and its five current highest compensated employees with reportable compensation of at least \$100,000 from the organization ...”

The SBC Business and Financial Plan does mandate that members of cooperating Southern Baptist churches “have access to information from the records of Southern Baptist Convention entities regarding income, expenditures, debts, reserves, operating balances, and

salary structures” (a salary structure list paygrades for job levels and pay ranges within those paygrades but does not give actual salary information for an employee). However, during the 2021 SBC Annual Meeting, the North American Mission Board declared it would only allow certain Southern Baptists to view this general information on a “case by case basis.”

This instance, in front of the Convention, of seemingly refusing to comply with Article XIV “Safeguarding of Funds” of the SBC Business and Financial appears to have prompted the messenger calls for transparency during the annual meetings that have followed.

According to the IRS, the “Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax,” or Form 990, was implemented in 1941 to provide “the public with information about a nonprofit organization” and to “prevent organizations from abusing their tax-exempt status.”


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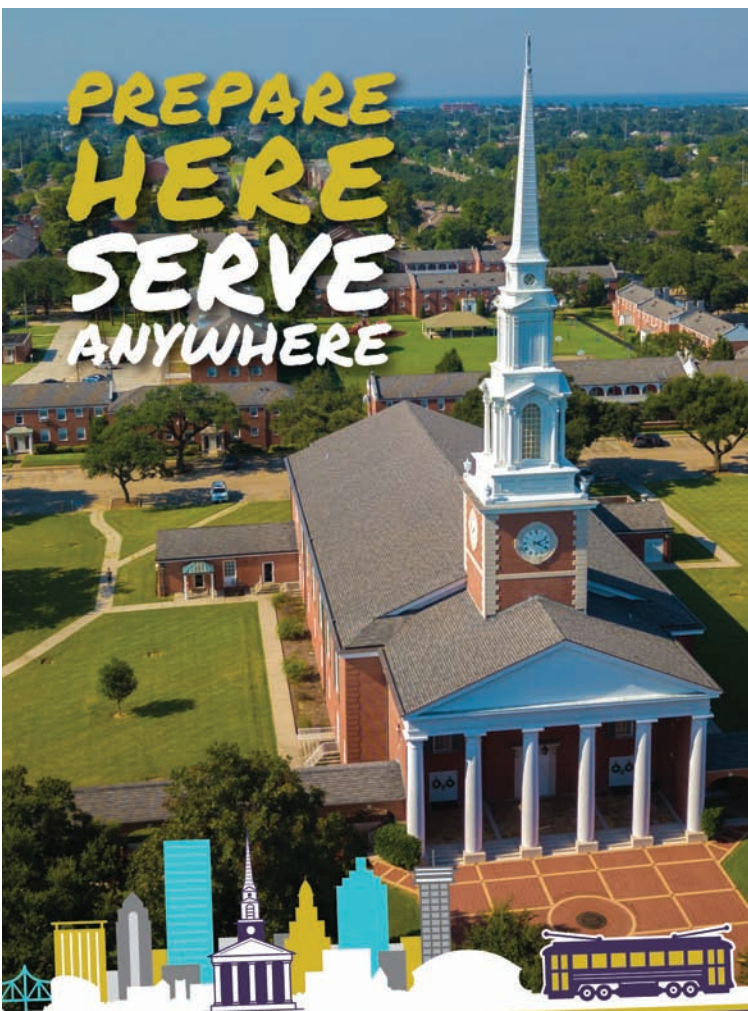
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LBC seeks resolutions, nominees for committees, boards

By Staff
Baptist Message

Francisville, LA 70775.

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) — Louisiana Baptists are invited to recommend candidates to serve on state convention boards and committees and are asked to submit resolutions for possible consideration by messengers during the 2024 Louisiana Baptist Convention.

COMMITTEES

The Louisiana Baptist Committee on Committees is beginning its work to fill 17 openings on five committees: Credentials; Moral and Social Concerns; Nominations; Order of Business; and Resolutions. Nominations should be sent no later than Aug. 11 to Joel Williams, pastor, First Baptist Church, Francisville, who is the committee chair, via email, joel@fbcfla.com, or the U.S. Mail, Dr. Joel Williams, P. O. Box 1339, St.

BOARDS

The Louisiana Baptist Committee on Nominations also is beginning its work to fill 21 vacancies on the LBC Executive Board as well as the trustee bodies of the Louisiana Christian University, Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries, Baptist Message, and Baptist Foundation.

Nominations should be sent no later than Aug. 11 to Leo Miller, pastor, First Baptist Church, Denham Springs, who is the committee chair, via email, leo.miller@firstdenham.com, or the U.S. Mail, Dr. Leo Miller, 27735 La. Highway 16, Denham Springs, LA 70726.

BOTH

Please submit the candidate's name and identify the committee or board for which you are nominating

him or her and include information about the nominee's church membership and current employment.

No more than the pastor and two members from any church may serve on all boards and committees, combined, at any one time. Likewise, no more than one member of the same church may serve on the same board or committee at any one time.

RESOLUTIONS

The first Committee on Resolutions meeting is scheduled for Sept. 17 and submissions are requested to be sent as early as possible for consideration. Resolutions may be submitted for review and consideration no more than 90 days and no fewer than 15 days prior to the LBC annual meeting, Nov. 14, providing a window of opportunity from Aug. 14 through Oct. 28.

All statements should be typewritten, titled, and

dated, and accompanied by a letter — from a church qualified to send a messenger to the annual meeting of the Louisiana Baptist Convention — certifying that the person submitting the resolution is a member in good standing. The letter should include complete contact information for both the person submitting it and his or her church.

No person may submit more than three resolu-

tions per year.

Fieldon Thigpen, pastor of Memorial Baptist Church, Bogalusa, is the Committee on Resolutions chair. You may send proposed resolutions to the committee via fax, 318.449.4287, email, [Hello@LouisianaBaptists.org](mailto>Hello@LouisianaBaptists.org), or U.S. Mail, ATTN: Resolutions Committee, c/o Communications Team, Louisiana Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 311, Alexandria, LA 71309.

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Crawford from page one

"I really believe we can see a movement take place in our state as people come to know Jesus and more disciples are made and churches are planted across the state," Crawford told *Baptist Message*. "Our heart is Louisiana. We want to see Louisiana come to Christ.

"Louisiana Baptists have continually blessed my family and the churches that we planted over the years. We have experienced first-hand the amazing work of God that results from the prayer, partnership, and participation of Louisiana Baptists. This is a wonderful oppor-

tunity to serve Louisiana Baptists and seek to have a Kingdom impact in the state."

A veteran church planter for 18 years, Crawford started Life Point Community Church, Mansura (2006-2020). During that time, he saw the church grow from 10 to over 250 and baptize 435.

Through the years, he served in a variety of other ministerial roles: youth pastor with Holloway Baptist Church, Deville (2002-2004); interim pastor of multiple churches in central Louisiana (2004-2006); director of missions with Louisiana Baptist Association (2017-2020); and director with City Life NOLA and pastor with City Life Church, New Orleans (2020-present). He will continue to serve with City Life NOLA and City Life Church on a more limited basis.

A native of Deville,

Crawford holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Louisiana College (now Louisiana Christian University); a master's degree from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Lynchburg, Va.; and a doctorate in educational ministry from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Crawford and his wife, Allyson, have two children, Alyvia and Avynleigh.

James Jenkins, director of the Louisiana Baptist missions and ministry team, said Crawford has "hit the ground running" since he assumed his new role May 1.

"Jacob is almost a perfect fit with his experience with the Louisiana Baptist Convention as a pastor, associational missionary and church planter. He has a network of relationships all over Louisiana and I'm looking forward to him coming in very quickly to begin to help with the process of planting more churches and reaching more people in the state for Christ."

SEND NETWORK LOUISIANA PARTNERSHIP

Crawford said he is looking forward to help furthering the Send Network Louisiana, a partnership between the North

American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

The partnership, which went into effect Aug. 1, 2023, has a goal to expand God's Kingdom in Louisiana by one percent (about 28,000) in a decade. Researchers estimate that 60 percent of 4,648,794 Louisianans are lost (about 2,789,276). If successful, 28,875 Louisianans will be added to the Kingdom through 231 new churches planted in the state by 2033 (based on each reaching 125 people with the Gospel). These salvations will be in addition to those recorded by already established Louisiana Baptist congregations.

This partnership includes four years of monthly supplements for Send Network church plants; five years of Send Network Planter Care (the North American Mission Board church planter spiritual and emotional care system); access to NAMB start-up grants and a year of free health insurance; and a \$1,000 retirement benefit through GuideStone for planters and their families.

"Please pray that God would raise up an army of disciple makers and that Louisiana would be trans-

See CRAWFORD, page 13



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EB Highlights from page one _____

annually, with the goal of producing 12 candidates per retreat.

The Louisiana Baptist partnership with the North American Mission Board has a God-sized vision to see His Kingdom expanded in Louisiana by one percent (about 28,000) over the next decade. Researchers estimate that 60 percent of 4,648,794 Louisianans are lost (about 2,789,276). If successful, 28,875 Louisianans will be added to the Kingdom through 231 new churches planted in the state by 2033 (based on each reaching 125 people with the Gospel). These salvations will be in addition to those recorded by already established Louisiana Baptist congregations.

The goal of reaching 28,875 new people can be obtained with a combination of planting 231 new churches reaching 125 people with the Gospel. These salvations will be accomplished in a cooperative effort with already established Louisiana Baptist congregations.

Since the partnership began, Send Network Louisiana church plants have reported, collectively: 2,854 in weekly worship; 1,954 Gospel conversations; 183 salvation decisions; 79 baptisms; 1,506 disciplined; and \$21,350 given to the Cooperative Program.

Beyond the Send Network Louisiana church plants, Horn shared that other evangelism milestones have included 8,375 baptisms by Louisiana Baptist churches in 2023, an increase of 1,685 from 2022.

“And I believe that we can realistically see that soon, maybe even this year if the Lord wills, that we can get to 10,000 baptisms per year,” he said. “Let’s do it.”

Sharing Acts 17, Horn said there are at least six inescapable truths about people to whom the Apostle Paul addressed in that passage: they are religious; God appointed them to be among us in both time and space; God desires a relationship with them; they face judgement; each person will make a decision about Jesus; and in the end, this is deeply personal.

“As believers in Christ, the passing of our faith, the Gospel, from one generation to another is among the highest callings in life,” Horn said. “However, we do not have an infinite window to exchange the baton. Because passing our faith is of the highest callings, it must have the highest priority in our lives.”

CHURCH INSURANCE UPDATE

Horn said that since an advisory committee was formed, in late 2023, to help identify strategies and resources to secure one-time funding to launch the state legislature approved self-insurance program, 350 churches of various denominations have submitted the necessary historical insurance information. However, at least 650 more churches are needed to submit requested insurance policies and histories.

“This is not an immediate fix,” Horn said. “This is a long-term solution. This hurricane season, and maybe even the next, is going to come and go without any additional resolution in this matter. This can be a matter of concern and should be a matter of prayer. But this cannot mean that we give up on future solutions.”

Horn and Will Hall, Louisiana Baptist Office of Public Policy director, have met with legislators and other public officials and been assured of help in their attempts to secure some of the \$8-9 million in funds that will be needed to start the program. He said several bills are awaiting Gov. Jeff Landry’s signature that Insurance Commissioner Tim Temple and others believe will bring some relief by bringing other insurance companies to the state.

Horn told board members they will continue to pray and work on Louisiana Baptists’ behalf and asked pastors of all denominations to submit the basic insurance information (a current policy and a five-year record of claims, known as a “loss run report”) needed to complete the modeling that has to be done to move forward.

CHURCH BIZ

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LBF reports 16-year high short-term fund rate

By Staff
Louisiana Baptist Message
ALEXANDRIA, La.

(LBM) – The Louisiana Baptist Foundation has reached its highest short-term fund rate in

more than 16 years. According to LBF Executive Director Jeff Steed, the annual-

ized rate of 4.00 percent is being earned by churches and other ministry accounts all over the state. Like a savings account, the short-term fund allows churches to invest their money with no minimum balance or investment period, limitless and penalty-free withdrawals, deposits and accounts, and daily-earned interest that helps steward funds for Kingdom impact.

for churches and other ministries,” Steed told the *Baptist Message*. “We are very grateful that God is continuing to bless the Foundation’s ministry through maximizing impact for those whom we have the honor to serve.”



Jeff Steed

The short-term fund is one of many ways the foundation partners with Louisiana Baptist churches to build the Kingdom “one dollar at a time, one ministry at a time, one life at a time.”

More than \$43 million has been achieved toward the foundation’s Vision 200 (impacting the Kingdom with \$200 million generated in 20 years or less).

The foundation also offers other money management services for churches, gift planning for individuals, estate stewardship for

Steed added that the fund often offers higher interest rates than those provided through a traditional bank while providing access and availability each business day by phone, email, fax, mail or in-person visit to the foundation office inside the Louisiana Baptist Building in Alexandria.

“In the last 12 months, over \$4 million was generated for short-term fund accounts

See RATES, page 12

(C) Emil Besirevic

Graduates from page one

guests, who received the messages from these graduates about their LCU journeys.

“Saturday was the living testimony of what we do at Louisiana Christian University,” Acting President David Jeffreys told the *Baptist Message*. “Our graduates have been equipped and prepared to fulfill the Great Commission as they go and serve Him in all walks of life. Our students shared some incredible testimonies of how God has used the LCU family to impact their lives. They will be missed but will now forever be Wildcats.”

In her speech, Noel Schonhoff told the crowd that LCU gave her the confidence and motivation for a fresh start in life. Most importantly, she said, she found Christ during a Fellowship of Christian Athletes retreat.

“Up until I attended school at LCU, I may have attended church five times,” she said. “Little did I know that I would say ‘Yes’ to giving my life to Christ just three days later. Once I dedicated my life to him everything changed.”

Devin Briscoe said LCU helped reshape his academic and athletic goals, but especially his perspective on life.

When he arrived on campus during August 2020, he faced uncertainty in the aftermath of the global pandemic. However, Briscoe said God was his focal point in a new environment.

“What I learned is that life’s challenges are opportunities for growth, and no matter how hard it is, I know God is always on my side, and there’s nothing He cannot do,” he said. “The tools and life lessons I acquired at LCU are not just for my personal benefit, they are resources I will carry forward to make positive impact in my community and beyond. As I said, in my next chapter of my journey I do so with the gratitude for the experiences, friendships and

faith that have shaped me into who I am today, a proud LCU graduate ready to embrace whatever challenges and triumphs lie ahead.”

Laura Aime, who served as Student Government Association president for the 2023-2024 academic year, said she appreciated how her professors challenged her to think critically and offered ample encouragement.

“Many of my professors pray before every exam and point us towards Christ and encourage reliance on him continually,” she said. “Through my time here I’ve seen again and again the importance of relying on and trusting in God and in His plan for my life.”

“As Romans 15:13 declares, ‘May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit,’” she continued.

“Class of 2024, as we graduate and move on to our next steps, I encourage each of you to always remember this verse. Place your hope in Christ and be confident in and rely on Him. My time at LCU truly helped me to remember to focus on this and to trust in Him continually.”

Victoria Watson shared how her fellow classmates and professors helped her get through some dark days, including when her cousin, Christopher, passed two days before end-of-semester exams began during her sophomore year.

“If it weren’t for my LCU family, I wouldn’t have made it through that finals week,” she said. “My LCU family prayed with me while I cried and even found ways to make me laugh during these hard times. I will always be thankful to everyone here who showed me grace and patience as I battled grief and uncertainty.”

See GRADUATES, page 13

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Registration and details at LouisianaBaptists.org/ReGroup24

Bucket List from page 2

Also, remember, that a hurricane allows time for gathering supplies days ahead of landfall, but a sudden catastrophe such as a train derailment that leaks poisonous gas does not.

DISASTER PLAN

Take time as a family to plan what to do in emergencies before you face a crisis. When the situation is deteriorating is not the time to decide.

Identify when and where to evacuate in case of such events as a house fire. Be sure it is a location familiar to all family members.

Write out and memorize how you will communicate with each other inside and outside the disaster zone.

If you have extended family living in different areas, designate a contact

person for each member to check in with as soon as possible after a disaster strikes.

DISASTER AWARENESS

Keep your phone's emergency alerts turned on.

Make sure you have a battery-powered radio handy in case of power failure.

Finally, when you receive a severe weather warning or watch, take it seriously.

TRUST GOD, AND PLAN

Those who prepare are in a better place to survive a disaster and help others -- you could save someone's life or even your own.

Psalm 57:1 is a great reminder: "Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge. I will take refuge

in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed."

I believe, even in the storm, we can have peace because we are prepared and trust in the Lord!

Stan Statham is the Louisiana Baptist Men's Ministry and Disaster Relief Strategist.

Rates from page 12

churches and Church Biz Central (accounting services, capital/stewardship campaigns, cash management, church loans, computer support line, giving-gateway.net, online giving, and pay-

roll services).

For more information on how to set up a short-term fund or utilize other services offered, email contact@LBInfo.org or call 877.523.4636.

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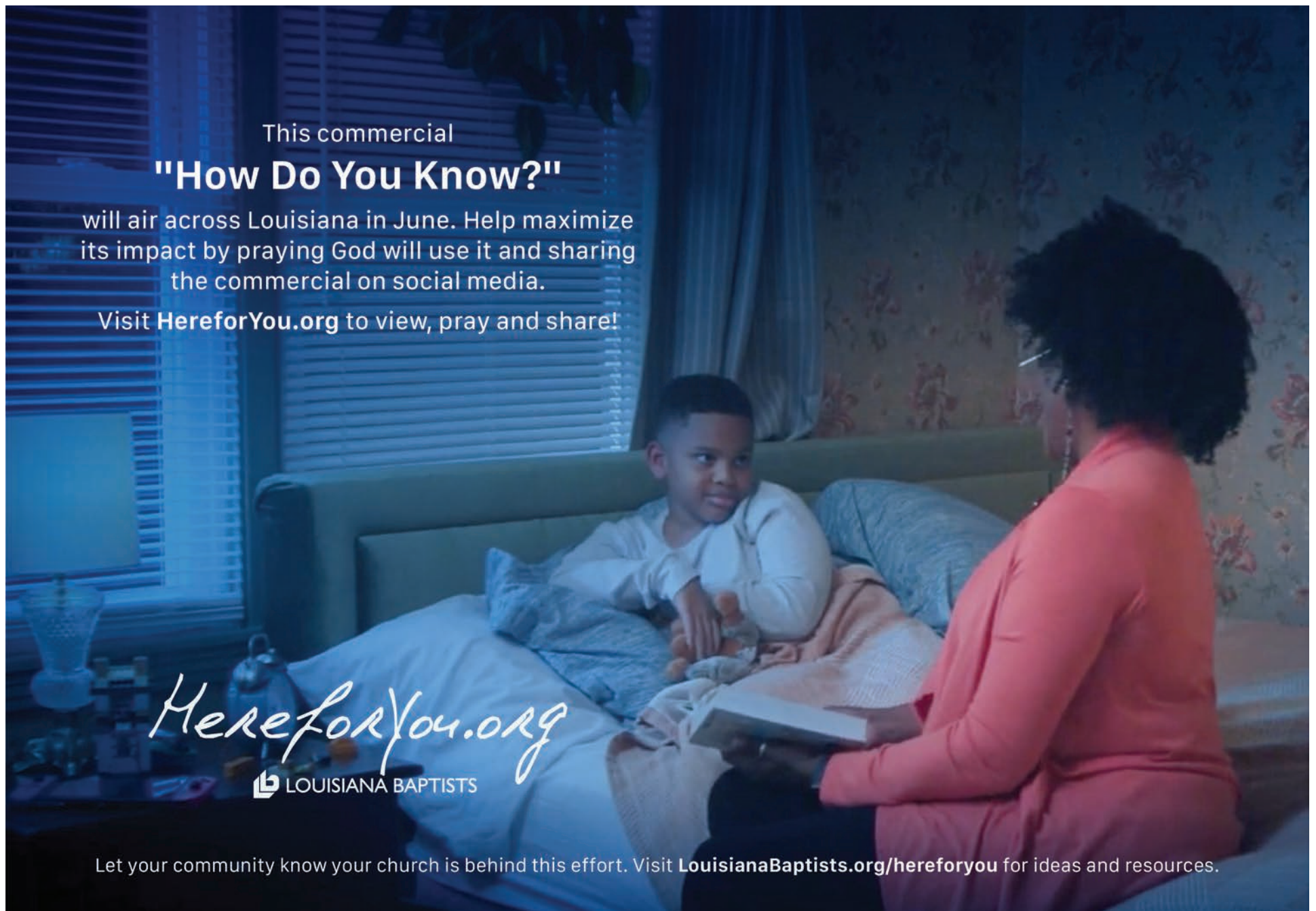
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Let your community know your church is behind this effort. Visit LouisianaBaptists.org/hereforyou for ideas and resources.

Graduates from page 11

In a prayer he led, LCU Board of Trustees member Craig Beeman asked God to use the graduates to transform lives in America and beyond. Beeman, a 1993 alum, is the pastor of First Baptist Church, Winnsboro.

“We look over this vast host of graduates and we say to you, thank you,” he prayed. “Thank you for the professors who care beyond the classroom. Thank you for the faculty and administrators who strive to keep the standards of education high at this institution. Thank you for every person who works at this institution who has poured into the lives of these graduates.

“And Father, thank

You for these graduates who put hard work and effort into all they did to be able to sit here today, late nights of study and stress that maybe some had not encountered ever in their lives,” he continued. “And yet they sit here victorious. Bless them, God, as they venture forth into this world. May they never forget that what they have

learned in and outside of the classroom, whether they came from around the corner or around the world, help them to know as they leave that each one of them has great value and worth to You and to this world. Father, make it easy for them to carry the light of Your love into the lives of those who need it. Help them to know that their presence as a Christian, wherever they are, has the opportunity to make

every situation better. Father, empower them, enable them, guide their paths and bless them to

do what you’ve called them to do in their respective fields of study.”

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Crawford from page 8

Jesus,” Crawford requested.

OTHER CHANGES

The addition of Crawford is the latest change to the missions and ministry team.

Recently, Louisiana Baptist Men’s Ministry and Disaster Relief Strategist Stan Statham absorbed compassion ministry responsibilities. Jeff Cook, who retired in February, previously served in that role.

“Compassion relief ministries focus on meeting physical needs, which opens the door for Gospel conversations,” Statham said. “Those who find themselves in a crisis often ask spiritual questions.”

Jenkins is excited about the possibilities ahead because of the move.

“As we enter the Send Louisiana partnership, this has allowed us to realign what we do so that we are more in tune with our national agencies,” Jenkins said. “What we have done is to shift what we have done in compassion ministry under Stan Statham who relates to Send Relief. We will have Send Relief, Disaster Relief and compassion relief all under one umbrella.”

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However, fulfilling this mission requires more than just passion and dedication; it necessitates financial resources. Studies consistently reveal that a significant portion of American wealth is held in appreciated assets (non-cash assets), such as stocks, mutual funds, and real estate. While many individuals choose to support their churches and ministries through traditional cash donations, there is often untapped potential in leveraging these appreciated assets for charitable giving.

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Recognizing the immense value of leveraging appreciated assets in gift planning, the Louisiana Baptist Foundation stands ready to assist donors in realizing their charitable goals. By facilitating the donation process, the Foundation streamlines the giving experience for donors while maximizing the impact of their contribution. For churches and ministries, partnering with the Louisiana Baptist Foundation to facilitate these gifts allows them to focus more fully on their mission instead of worrying about compliance with the legal requirements related to gifts of appreciated assets.

For more information on how you can maximize your giving through stock, real estate, or other appreciated assets, please call the Louisiana Baptist Foundation at 877-523-4636 or email contact@lbfinfo.org.

Dr. Jeffrey Steed, Executive Director
Jared Price, J.D., Director of Gift Planning

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EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Baptist Message* provides churches an opportunity to share with other Louisiana Baptists an upcoming revival, homecoming, new pastor, new staff member, a community outreach, or a concert in Louisiana Notables. To place your event in the paper, send your information (who, what, where, when, time) to philip@baptistmessage.com or call **318.449.4345**. Please submit your information four weeks prior to the event to insure placement in the Message.

ON THE MOVE

- **Ray Bowman** is the new associate pastor at Teche Baptist Church, Breaux Bridge. He comes from First Baptist Church, Delcambre.
- **Lisa, husband Clay, Broussard** is the new associate director of Tall Timbers Conference Center.
- **Max Hutto**, music minister, is retiring at Mooringport Baptist Church, Mooringport.
- **Donald, wife Sandy, Fuhrmann** passed away on April 24. He worked for several years as a Volunteer for the Missions and Ministry Team. He also worked part-time from July 2002 to December 2003.

HOMECOMING/ANNIVERSARY

- French Corner Baptist Church, Ponchatoula: **75th Anniversary**, June 1-2, Saturday, 6 p.m. and 10:30 a.m., June 2. Special Music: **The Lefevre Quartet, The Southern Plainsmen, Bros4 and Chronicle**. Pastor: Eric Hattaway.
- Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Choudrant: **75th anniversary/homecoming**, June 9. Guest speaker: **Jerry Whitman**. Worship: **Sanctuary Quartet**. Dinner on the Grounds will follow the worship service. Pastor: Kenneth Swanner.

REVIVAL

- Hodge Baptist Church, Hodge: **Back to the Future Prophecy Conference**, May 19-22, 6 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Sam Moore**. Worship: **New Freedom**. Pastor: Keith Thomas.
- Bellwood Baptist Church, Provencal: **Spring Revival**, May 19-22. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell**. Pastor: Roger Matkin.
- Pisgah Baptist Church, Florien: **Spring Revival 2024**, May 24-27. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: C.M. Kelly.
- Southside Baptist Church, Mansfield: **18th Annual Bible Conference**, May 26-28, Sunday, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Housing and meals will be provided for all pastors and their families. Evangelist: **Michael Courtney**. For more information, call 318.872.4575. Pastor: Gary Orr.
- Esler Baptist Church, Pineville: **Spring Revival**, May 26-29, 6 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Casey Johnson**. Music: **Billy/Sadie Cole, Beau/Cece Edwards, Sadie Cole/Lauren Bryant**. Wednesday night will be youth and kids' night at 5 p.m. There will be jumpers and pizza the afternoon before the service. Pastor: Joshua Timothy.
- Holly Grove Baptist Church, Wisner: **Spring Revival 2024**, May 26-29, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday: 6 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell**, Worship: **The Sanctuary Quartet**. Pastor: Dennis Fontenot.
- Friendship Baptist Church, Pine Prairie: **Harvest Sunday**, June 2. Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Jason Hazleton.
- Coteau Baptist Church, Houma: **The LeFevre Quartet in concert**, June 2, 9 a.m. Pastor: Wayne Hunt.
- First Baptist Church, Merryville: **Guest Preacher Robert Dukes**, June 2 & 9, Pastor: None.
- The New Beginnings, Walker: **Spring Revival 2024**, June 2-5, Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell**. Pastor: Charles Smith.
- Nebo Baptist Church, Jena: **Spring Revival 2024**, June 9-12. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell**. Pastor: (None)
- New Zion Baptist Church, Oak Grove: **Revival**, June

- 9-12. Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Jeremy Bullock.
- Open Door Baptist Church, Ragley: **Harvest Sunday**, June 16. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Sonny Simpson.

LAGNIAPPE

- Paron Baptist Church, Sterlington: **Guest speaker:** May 26, Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Clint Freeman.
- Friendship Baptist Church, Pine Prairie: **Harvest Sunday**, June 2. Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Jason Hazleton.
- Coteau Baptist Church, Houma: **The LeFevre Quartet in concert**, June 2, 9 a.m. Pastor: Wayne Hunt.
- Victory Baptist Church, Franklinton: **Chronicles in concert**, June 9, 9:30 a.m. Pastor: Larry Archote.
- Lanier Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: **Chronicles in concert**, June 16, 10:20 a.m. Pastor: Mike Ferguson.
- First Baptist Church, Minden: **June Jubilee – A collective worship concert**, June 29, 6 p.m. **Featuring: First Baptist Minden, First Baptist Pineville & LeCompte, First Baptist Church, Arcadia, City on a Hill Pentecostals, Jake Cowley, Point of Grace (June 29th only) and The Cox Family**. Admission is free. Pastor: Leland Crawford.
- First Baptist Church, Pineville: **June Jubilee – A collective worship concert**, June 30, 6 p.m. **Featuring: First Baptist Minden, First Baptist Pineville & LeCompte, First Baptist Church, Arcadia, City on a Hill Pentecostals, Jake Cowley, Point of Grace (June 29th only) and The Cox Family**. Admission is free. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

- Vietnamese Hope Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: **Breaker Rock Beach 2024 VBS**, 5:30 p.m. To register go to vnhbc.org.
- Sardis Baptist Church, Winnsboro: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, May 27-31, 5:30-8 p.m. Pastor: Waylon Tibbs.
- New Hope Baptist Church, DeQuincy: **Scuba Vacation Bible School**, May 27-31, 6-8:30 p.m. This is for children pre-K to completed 12th grade. To register go to <https://fb.me/e/3v1kNmTf>. Pastor: Roland Hebert.
- Summer Grove Baptist Church, Shreveport: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, May 28-31, 9 a.m. – noon. This is for children three years (potty trained) to sixth grade. To register <https://summergrove.cbcchurch.com/goto/forms/227/responses/new>. Pastor: Heath Peloquin.
- First Baptist Church, Winnsboro: **On the Farm Vacation Bible School**, May 28-31, 5:30-8 p.m. Register online at FBCwinnsboro.com. or for information call the church office @ 318.435.4359. Pastor: Craig Beeman.
- First Baptist Church, Pine Prairie: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 2-7, 5:15-8:30 p.m. Ages pre-K thru sixth grade. Nursery for three and under for staff only. Pastor: R. Lee Walton.
- First Baptist Church, Pineville: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 2-6, 5:30-8:45 p.m. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.
- Bethel Baptist Church, Colfax: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, June 2-6, 6-8:45 p.m. For ages 5 years old to sixth grade (completed). To register your children early got to https://vbspro.events/p_early/0b2a10. Pastor: Kenneth Bratton.
- First Baptist Church, Sulphur: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 2-6, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Registration: <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68433>. Pastor: Michael Linton.
- Houston River Baptist Church, Sulphur: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-6. Ages: K-5th grade (completed) Registration: <https://houstonriver.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2180185> Pastor: Lonnie Gothrup.
- Swartz Baptist Church, Monroe: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, June 3-7, 8:30 a.m. – Noon. This is for kids who have completed kindergarten through 6th grade. Register today at <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68496>. Pastor: Jarrett Fix.

- New Chapel Hill Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, 8:30 a.m. – noon. New Chapel Hill Vacation Bible School is for children who are going into Kindergarten to completed 5th grade. To register your child, go to <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/default.aspx?id=68872&t=1>. Pastor: Marty Black.
- Airline Baptist Church, Bossier City: **Wipe Out – It's all about Jesus Dude**, June 3-6, 5:30-8:30 p.m. This is for pre-K to sixth grade. To register: <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68598>. Pastor: Terry Young.
- First Baptist Church, Amite: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-7, 6-8:30 p.m. This is for children who have completed K through fifth grade. To register go to www.amitechurch.org and click on the "Register" button. Pastor: Matthew White.
- First Baptist Church, Welsh: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-7, 8:30 a.m.-noon. This is for ages 4-12. Pastor: Pat Deshotels.
- First Baptist Church, Dequincy: **Jungle Journey VBS**, June 3-7, 5:30-8 p.m. Ages: 3yrs – 5th grade (completed) Registration: <https://fb.me/e/cMgKNr2Zg>. Pastor: David Earnest.
- First Baptist Church, Westlake: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-7, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages: Pre-K4 – 5th grade (completed). Registration: <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68896>. Pastor: David Brewer.
- First Baptist Church, Robeline: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, June 3-7, 6-9 p.m. Pastor: Brian Ray.
- First Baptist Church, Covington: **Breaker Rock Beach 2024**, June 4-6, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Breaker Rock Beach VBS teaches kids to stand tall in God's To register go to fbccov.org/kids-ministry. Pastor: Waylon Bailey.
- Fellowship Baptist Church, Trout: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 2-7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. We have classes for children who have completed pre-K through 6th grade, a youth class, and even an adult class. Pastor: Shad Tibbs.
- Cedar Crest Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-7. For incoming kindergarten and completed fifth grade. To register your child, go to <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68382>. Pastor: Gregory Clark.
- First Baptist Church, Bunkie: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-7 from 8:30 a.m.- noon. Online registration is now open, and children can be registered by following the link below and filling out the form. <https://forms.gle/tsxfMmrgHoqeSd97>. VBS is for those who have completed Pre-k - 4 (going to Kindergarten) through 6th grade. Pastor: Phillip Boone.
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Jonesboro: **Rock Breaker**

- Beach VBS**, June 3-7, 8:30 a.m. – noon, Pastor: Chris Lee.
- First Baptist Church, Franklinton: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 3-7, 8:30 a.m.-noon. This is for ages P -K(4)-6th grade. To register click the link <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68939>. Pastor: Jake Roudkovski.
- First Baptist Church, Rayville: **The Great Jungle Journey VBS**, June 3-7, 8:30-noon. To register go to <https://fbcrayville.myanswers.com/jungle-journey/> This is for all who have completed pre-k 4 through 6th grade. Pastor: Justin Clark.
- Old Zion Hill Baptist Church, Independence: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 9-13, 5:30-8:30 p.m. For more information contact the church. Pastor: Gary Dennis.
- Trinity Baptist Church, Sulphur: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 9-13, 5:30-8 p.m. Pastor: C. Lamar Huffman.
- Community Baptist Church, West Monroe: **SCUBA Vacation Bible School**, June 9-13, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Pastor: Danny McIveene.
- East Jena Baptist Church, Jena: **VBS**, June 9-13, 5:30-8 p.m. This is for children kindergarten to sixth grade Pastor: Michael Wilkinson.
- Longview Baptist Church, Deville: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 10-14, 8:30-11:30 a.m. VBS is open to all children who are going to Pre-K-8th grade this fall. Children can register now online. <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=68291> Pastor: Robby Poole.
- Center Point Baptist Church, Jonesboro: **Vacation Bible School**. June 10-14, 8:30 a.m.-noon. Pastor: David Essmeier.
- New Roads First Baptist Church, New Roads: **The Great Jungle Journey VBS**, June 10-14, 9 a.m.-noon. Pastor: Jeff Vincent, Jr.
- First Baptist Church, Gillis: **SCUBA Vacation Bible School**, June 10-14, 9 a.m.-noon. For children pre-K-5th grade (completed). Pastor: Glenn George.
- Trinity Baptist Church, Lake Charles: **Let's Start the Party VBS**, June 10-14, 9 a.m. – noon. Ages: 3 yrs – 5th grade (completed). To register, <https://fb.me/e/4xikzqQp3>. Pastor: David Rose.
- First Baptist Church, Gillis: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 10-14, 9-11:30 a.m. Pastor: Glenn Charles.
- Jamestown Baptist Church, Jamestown: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, June 10 – 14, 5:30 – 8 p.m. nightly for ages 3 to those who have finished 6th grade. A meal will be served each night. Pastor: Stanley Foster.
- First Baptist Church Lake Arthur: **Start the Party VBS**, 9 a.m.-noon. Registration: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=837182115105315&set=a.558>

- 163303007199. Pastor: Jered Thomas.
- First Baptist Church, Plaquemine: **The Great Jungle Journey**, June 10-14, 8:30-11:30 a.m. This is for age 5-6th, VBS is a FREE event, but you must register! Registration link: <https://fbcpaquemine.myanswers.com/vbs2024/>. Pastor: Keith Horton.
- First Baptist Church, Moss Bluff: **Start the Party VBS**, June 10-14. This is for kids K – 3rd: 9 am – Noon and 4th – 6th: 6-8:30 p.m. To register go to <https://firstmossbluff.com/kidweek>. Pastor: Bryan Carter.
- Westside Baptist Church, Natchitoches: **Scuba Vacation Bible School**, June 10-14, 8 a.m.-noon. <https://westsidebaptistchurchlouisiana.snappages.site/wes...> Our VBS is only for those kids who have completed Pre-K 4 through 5th Grade. (If your child is not entering kindergarten in August 2024, they are not old enough for Westside VBS just yet. Pastor: Steve McAlister.
- Walker Baptist Church, Walker: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, June 10-14, 8 a.m. – noon. To register go to <https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=67937>. Pastor: Jason McNaughten.
- First Baptist Church, Mansfield: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS 2024**, June 16-20, 6-8:30 p.m. Sign up at myvbs.org/fbcmansfield. Pastor: Chad Hardbarger.
- South Winnfield Baptist Church, Winnfield: **Scuba VBS**, June 17-20, 5-8:30 p.m. Pastor: Jack Miller.
- Bethany Baptist Church, Bethany: **Vacation Bible School**, June 17 – 21, 5-8 p.m. Pastor: Marvin Cooper.
- First Baptist Church, Natchitoches: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 17-21, 9 a.m. – noon. This is for all who have completed pre-k 4 through 6th grade. To sign up for VBS go to <https://forms.gle/292fQ6nRSrSA3488>. Pastor: Tommy Rush.
- Philadelphia Baptist Church, Deville: **Breaker Rock Beach**, June 17-21, 6-8:30 p.m. Online Preregistration is open through Wednesday, June 12. After June 12th, must register in person on campus. Open Registration for Completed Kindergarten through 6th Grade. Kindergarten Note: Maximum of 45 Kindergarteners. Pastor: Philip Robertson.
- Judson Baptist Church, Walker: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 17-21. For more information, contact the church. Pastor: David Lane.
- Cook Baptist Church, Ruston: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 17-21 from 9 a.m. til noon each day. To register at <https://cookbaptistchurch.churchcenter.com/.../2290305>. Pastor: Joseph Fowler.
- Lakeside Baptist Church, Winnfield: **Breaker Rock Beach VBS**, June 17-21 5:30-7:30 p.m. Pastor: Mitchell Miles.

FOR MORE GO TO www.baptistmessage.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.

UDG CRY YNALCFUDK YBFE YDCVYUCYG PK, UDG

USSEFTCYG PK, UDG EUFG PLWD PK RUVG HWDGUNY.

GYPCYVVDWQA CJYDCA-KFO:KFO

Clues:
C = T; U = A

Answer to April 25, Scripture Crypto:
Job Eighteen: Six



2 Pro-Life Programs for Adults & Teens this Summer!



**Saturday
July 20
9AM - 4:30PM**

Two years after Dobbs, join our Conference as we discuss the current landscape of pro-life law and action, and be empowered in your next steps to help moms and babies!



REGISTER: theProLifeSummit.com

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Pro-Life Youth Retreat



PULSE Leadership Institute July 15 - 20

PULSE Leadership Institute is an inspirational pro-life retreat where students will be educated and empowered to be the now generation of pro-life leaders, upholding a culture of life in their communities. Join us as we travel through the pro-life eras, featuring amazing speakers, field trips, pro-life persuasion, and our famous Coffee House Talent Show!



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