

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Staff Updates

Pastor Anniversaries

Rocky Maddox	1985	Rose Park
Reginaldo DeLeon	1991	Iglesia Bautista Ebenezer
Randy Harper	1996	Bellaire
Ken Basco	2003	Bellevue Road
John Fream	2008	Cypress
Darrell Dean	2012	Providence Rd
Jahill Richards	2019	Springs of Grace
Allen Brown	2020	Plain Dealing

Staff Changes

Eastwood: *Rusty Shuler*, Pastor, to Camden, SC

Ellerbe: *Jonathan Weldon*, Youth, to Georgetown, TX

South Bossier: *Eric Zimmer*, Interim Pastor

Fellowship Trips

Israel Trip hosted by Chad Mills. February 15-23, 2022, \$3,775.00 from Houston. For more information call 318-455-6927 or email chadmills76@me.com

39th ANNUAL MEN'S FISH FRY

BETHANY CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER



RANDY HARPER,
PASTOR,
Bellaire Baptist Church



DREW LEY,
Music,
Bellaire Baptist Church

Monday, September 13, 2021
SERVING TIME: 5:30 PM Cost: \$10.00
To REGISTER:
BETHANY CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
318-938-1221

5875 W. 70th St
Shreveport LA 71129
318-686-5736 FAX: 687-9701
Return Service Requested

E-mail: carlene@nwlba.org
Website: www.nwlba.org
www.facebook.com/NWLBA
Hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm/Mon-Thur.
8:30 am - 12:00 noon/Friday
Lane Moore, Director of Missions

Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Shreveport LA
Permit 37

Church News

Barksdale: *Faith Bible Institute "FBI"*. Classes start August 19, 2021, 6:15-8:30 pm. For enrollment and cost, go to www.fbiclass.com/register and click sign-up. School code: Bossier 2 LA. For more information, call 318-742-1641.

First Bossier: After 2 1/2 years since a fire destroyed over half the campus, First Bossier opened the doors to their new facilities on July 11.

Calvary: *Summer Hymn Sing*, Guests include: Barry LeBlanc, Raab Family, Solid Rock Quartet, Debbie Flowers & Mary Ann Williams on instruments, Zeke Touns. August 15, 4-6 pm. For more information, call 318-347-4370

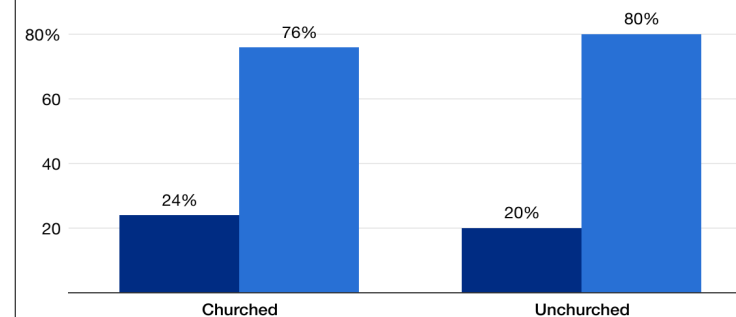


THE ELECTION'S IMPACT ON CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS, BY CHURCH ENGAGEMENT

Barna

Do you have close relationships that have been negatively impacted by the 2020 presidential election?

Yes No



Staff Opportunities

PASTOR	MUSIC	YOUTH	CHILDREN	OTHER
Eastwood Mooringsport North Keithville Westwood South Bossier	Benton FBC-PT Emmanuel/Vivian-PT Keithville FBC-PT	Ellerbe- FT Emmanuel/S'port-PT Grawood-PT Mooringsport-PT Princeton FBC-PT Westwood-PT North Keithville-PT	Belcher-PT Cross Point-PT Ferry Lake-PT	Brookwood - Ministry Assist./Youth & Family- FT Emmanuel/Vivian-Pianist Blanchard FBC -Administrative Assist.-PT

Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association

Baptist News

Churches, Missions &
Ministries Working
Together To Be
More Effective



VOLUME 51, NUMBER 8
August, 2021

UPCOMING FALL CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES



Pastor, is it time for a Church Check Up? How are your vital signs in these 7 areas?



- Evangelism
- Sunday School/Discipleship
- Fellowship
- Ministry/Missions
- Worship
- Leadership
- Stewardship



LBC and your Association are partnering together on Monday, September 27, for a **Fresh Start workshop** (Dinner at 6 pm). This pastor and staff workshop will expand your church's effectiveness in these seven areas.

For the first time in 48 years Northwest Association will have a **daytime Annual Meeting**. On Monday, October 11, at 10 am, messengers and guests will gather at First Baptist, Keithville, to report and celebrate our work and ministry over the past year. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Adam Greenway, President of Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth. Lunch will be provided and over 20 area ministries will be available to connect with. You'll be seeing additional information in the coming weeks.



Northwest Association Office

Monday, October 18, 2021

9:30 am - Noon

Register at: louisianabaptist.org/jbspreview



Dr. Jamie Dew,
President, NOBTS

PSALMS

THE CHARACTER OF GOD

2022 JANUARY BIBLE STUDY PREVIEWS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association

BETHANY CAMP
& CONFERENCE
CENTER

9766 Hwy 79,
Bethany, LA 71007

Thursday,
August 12, 2021

DEDICATION DAY at
BETHANY CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER



The newly renovated CPAC will have a ribbon cutting re-grand opening at 11:45 am.



During the noon Business session, Robert & Joan Cole will be honored for their decades of ministry to Bethany. The Dining Hall kitchen will be re-named **Cole Kitchen**.

Leadership session
11:00-11:40 am

Congressman
Mike Johnson
will bring
Pastors & Staff
an update on
current legislation in
Washington and how recent
Supreme Court rulings could
affect religious liberty.



Leadership meeting will be in
the CPAC Conference Room.

PLEASE RSVP
318-686-5736 or
carlene@nwlba.org

Bethany Camp & Conference

Trey Miller, Acting Director



Switching Gears

Summer is always the most fun and exhausting time of the year at Bethany Camp and Conference Center. Over the last 10 weeks the

Bethany staff has been pouring out all our energy to prepare and maintain the campground for campers to meet and grow closer to the LORD. It has been such a fun and meaningful summer that it is sad to see it winding down. But all seasons must come to an end so the next can start, and it seems like the next season starts immediately. We will have one week to clean and repurpose the camp for the retreat season. And our fall schedule is booked!



From day events to college weekend getaways and adult retreats, it is obvious that people are excited to be getting back to normal with their group activities. And we are excited that our schedule is filling up with people wanting to come to Bethany C3. We have over 25 events scheduled between now and Christmas, and the only empty weekend on our schedule is

Thanksgiving! Of course, we can always fit a few more events into the schedule. We are so blessed that people want to use our grounds for their ministry needs and are excited to see the LORD working in the next season here at Bethany!

Compassion Ministries

John Anderson



WHAT A BLESSING!

That's the word that I keep hearing from the residents at MASADA. Right now, there are ten individuals who call MASADA home for a myriad of reasons. No matter the reason, these individuals are so thankful to have such a place as our Living Center.

It's so rewarding to see the expressions on the many faces the first time I get to walk new residents through our wonderful facility. A lot of times, it comes to one main word, "Wow," usually followed with, "I didn't know it would be this nice."

The word of God is very clear when it comes to managing God's property, and that is, we're supposed to manage it with excellence. That being said, many of you have helped us in the past by providing many items we needed. For that, we are most grateful. Listed below are some items we need on a continual basis and a few items to finish furnishing the facility. Again, thank you all so much for helping us to continue making the MASADA Transitional Living Center a success.



- * New 55 inch TV
- * New Twin Blankets
- * New Living Room Chairs (Neutral Colors)
- * Paper Towels
- * 30 Gallon Trash Bags

For more information please call or email
John Anderson, 318-230-3446 or janderson@nwlba.org

Bulletin Board Notes

AUGUST

30 BI-Vocational Pastors Meeting
6:00 pm, Association Office

SEPTEMBER

11 RefreshHer, Brookwood Baptist Church

13 Men's Fish Fry, 5:30 pm, Bethany Camp & Conference

20 Branson @ Bethany Tickets go on sale

OCTOBER

11 Daytime NWLBA ANNUAL MEETING, FBC Keithville, 10:00 am

18 January Bible Study Preview, October 18, 9:30 am - Noon, Association Office

NOVEMBER

30 Branson @ Bethany Christmas Show
Showtimes: 9:30 am & 2:00 pm

Shreveport Metro BCM

Baptist Collegiate Ministry
Stephen Craver



The fall semester is upon us at the Shreveport BCM. Our students are excited and our calendar is packed. We've spent the summer reaching out to incoming freshmen

and readying our building for their arrival. Even more exciting are the new and renewed partnerships with our churches to reach college students across Shreveport-Bossier! Our churches are just as excited as we are about this new school year. Churches who missed the opportunity to bring free lunch to our campus lunch programs last year are quickly signing up for this semester. A new apartment outreach event with multiple church college ministries is planned. I have no doubt God will use our cooperation for His glory!

If you and your church would like to plug in to this fun and important ministry, please reach out to us at the BCM office. We'd love to partner with you! And of course the most important partnership we can have is joining in prayer for the coming semester.

Shreveport BCM, One University Place, Shreveport, LA 71115 318-797-1946

2021 2nd Quarter Financial Report

Church Contributions to Association Budget - \$140,541.19
Budget Expenses of Association - \$121,379.76

SBC News & CULTURE WATCH

Across the Country

Guidestone Financial Resources has a new President.



Dr. Hance Dilbeck, Executive Director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, has replaced the retiring Dr. O.S. Hawkins as President of the SBC entity. For over 100 years, Guidestone has provided services to the local church in insurance coverage for health care, property/casualty, plus retirement investments.

Whale Swallows Man...Again!

Looks like Jonah has company. Earlier this summer, 56 year old Michael Packard, a lobster diver was swallowed whole by a humpback whale off the coast of Cape Cod.



"I felt this huge shove, and everything went completely black. I could sense I was moving, and could feel the whale squeezing with the muscles in his mouth." Outfitted in scuba gear from head to toe, Packard began to struggle and could feel the whale shaking it's head as he saw daylight when the humpback surfaced to expel Packard. After a trip to the Cape Cod hospital, a few bruises were the only evidence of a 30 second ride inside a whale.

Saddleback ordains their first 3 women pastors.



The recent action taken by retiring pastor Rick Warren and his church leadership has reignited an ongoing discussion among Southern Baptists over the title "pastor" and how that label is applied to women in ministry. Dr. Ronnie Floyd, President of the Executive Committee said, "as part of our confession of faith in the Baptist Faith & Message, it clearly states while both men and women are gifted for service, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by scripture."

The Los Angeles area church is among the SBC's largest churches with 53,000 members and weekly attendance of over 23,000.

Canadian Pastors continue to be arrested.

Pastor Tim Stephens of Fairview Baptist Church in Calgary, Alberta, was recently arrested for hosting outdoor church services against ongoing Canadian Health Department Covid orders.



Also, Pastor Art Pawloski was arrested by Calgary officials for the same reason. A few weeks before his arrest, Pawloski made national news as video showed the Polish immigrant running half a dozen Calgary police out of his church, referring to them as Nazis and Communists.

Pastor James Coates was arrested earlier this year in Spruce Grove in Edmonton, Alberta, for holding church services in violation of the Canadian government. He was released after 35 days in jail.

A Pastor's Perspective



Darrell Dean, Pastor
Providence Road,
Shreveport, LA

A NATION AND ITS CHURCHES ADRIFT

Have you ever found yourself drifting before? Perhaps you were out on the lake fishing. Suddenly you found yourself in a "hot bed" of fish, pulling in one after another after another, only to realize that during the "catching frenzy" your boat

had drifted in the current far away from where you were when you caught the first fish. Now I am not much of a fisherman, but my wife and I do like to go kayaking in southeast Oklahoma each summer. The same principal of drifting applies in those mountain streams as well. There you are floating along in the current, taking in the beauty of God's creation as the stream pulls you along, then suddenly, while you were failing to pay attention, the current causes you to drift into a rock in the stream or to run up on the bank. Suddenly, you quickly realize you have been drifting.

Today, our nation is drifting in a culture that also ebbs and flows away from God. The cultural changes seem to intensify with every passing day like an ever-increasing current pulling our nation toward a catastrophic cliff. As this drift in our society is pulling our nation farther and farther from the moral compass that once defined us, where are our nation's churches? Are they standing out in the current of this changing culture? Are our nation's churches the "warning buoys" that alert an unsuspecting drifting culture of the upcoming rapids and rocks that are just ahead? Are they pointing out the dangers that will lead to certain death if the culture's drift isn't quickly changed? Sadly, many churches are themselves adrift also.

As we look across our community, our state, and our nation, there are some churches who are drifting along WITH the changing culture. For them, they are not standing out and sounding a warning against the changing culture because they are trying to embrace the culture. As they do, they wrestle with compromising the truth of scripture so that their perceived relevance will not be "canceled" by the very culture they are try to conform to.

However, the drift that most affects seemingly nearly every church today is the drifting currents of complacency. I read recently that only one in four Americans attend church at least once a month. This despite the fact that a 2019 survey of American adults by the same researcher, indicated that nearly 65% of those surveyed claim to be "Christians." Add to that the sad reality of those who may never return to faithful church attendance following the pandemic and it is clear that we have a BIG complacency problem in the American church!

Today our drifting culture needs our churches to break out the paddles, or fire up the engines to go against the tide of the godlessness of today's culture. We must sound the alarm before the lives of so many find themselves battered on the rocks and cliffs that are just ahead. I pray that all of our churches will break out of the current before it's too late!

Dr. Darrell Dean has been the pastor of Providence Road Baptist Church since 2012. Darrell and his wife, Renee, have one daughter.