

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Staff Updates

Pastor Anniversaries

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

New Staff

Grawood: (Correction from July 2022 Newsletter)

Ashley Young, Children

Cassidy Richardson, Children/Family Associate

Staff Changes

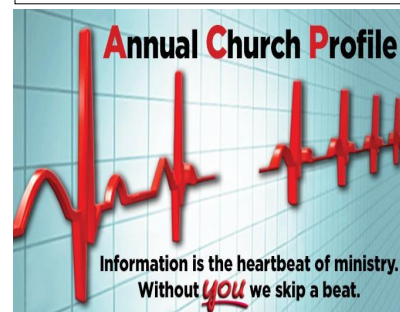
Red River: *Jerry Masters*, Pastor, from Interim

NEWS AROUND the ASSOCIATION



Broadmoor Pastor Chuck Pourciau shakes hand with IMB President Paul Chitwood, as he is elected to a second consecutive one-year term as trustee chairman.

Summer Hymn Sing at Calvary Baptist, with Aaron Watson & Price Harris. August 28, 4-6:30 pm. Also featuring Johnny Parrack & the Wonder State Quartet, Debbie Flowers, The Raab Family, Mark Lanier. Love offering.



ACP's HAVE BEEN MAILED

and are **DUE** in to the Association Office by Monday, **SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

2022 2nd Quarter Financial Report

Church Contributions to Association Budget - 131,509.94
Budget Expenses of Association - 122,730.87

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](https://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

Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association

Baptist News

Churches, Missions & Ministries Working Together To Be More Effective

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 8
AUGUST 2022



WHAT EVERY CHURCH NEEDS...A GODLY SHEPHERD

I speak with pastors every day. They love the sheep and desire to see their church members grow in grace and knowledge. It's easy for a church or a search committee to only focus on the externals of the man, like his ethnicity, age, family, education or experience. Today, these heart issues are perhaps more important than ever for the Church to see in their shepherd.

1. He has impeccable character, and everyone knows it.

Hopefully he will arrive at your church with that characteristic already in place. However, it may take a few years for the church members to fully realize it.

2. He has a Biblical humility, which is not self-loathing, with an honest awareness of his weaknesses.

The pastor who only talks about his strengths and all his grandiose plans for the church, may have an over inflated opinion of himself.

3. He has a walk with God that adds credibility to his leadership.

Unlike the apostles, pastors won't have opportunity to heal the lame and cast out demons to build up their credibility. The church will have to see their pastor lead during times of crises or see his witness squeezed by the world to know he is a man of character and credibility.

4. He has demonstrated love and devotion to the church without a sense of entitlement.

When the pastor is focused on building his kingdom and not the Father's, there are going to be problems. Sometimes a pastor has to love the bride of Christ enough to know when it's time to pass the baton to the next shepherd.

5. He has demonstrated skill in the nuts and bolts of leadership.

It was said in jest, but there's great truth in this quote. *"The trouble with this leadership stuff is that eventually it deteriorates into hard work."* Rarely and thankfully does a pastor in our Association ever have doctrinal or moral issues. The difficulty is usually over his leadership style, communication issues, or personal conflicts. How the shepherd handles his sheep makes all the difference for a successful pastorate.

Be blessed,

Lane

40TH ANNUAL MEN'S FISH FRY
BETHANY CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

Brad Kirby, Senior Pastor, Eastwood Baptist Church

**DELICIOUS CATFISH MEAL!
AWESOME MUSIC!
GREAT FELLOWSHIP!**

Monday, September 12, 2022
Serving Time: 5:30 pm
Cost: \$10 REGISTER WITH:
BETHANY CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
318-938-1221

NLBA
EXECUTIVE
BOARD
MEETING

**Thursday,
August 11, 2022**

Cross Point
Baptist Church
3140 Swan Lake Road
Bossier City, LA

11 am Leadership Session



IMB Missionaries
Eric & Gail Amison from
Central Asia

First Priority Youth
Michael Butler

Louisiana Baptist Children's Home
Connect 1 Child Foster Care
& Adoption Update

12 Noon Lunch & Business Meeting



318-686-5736 or
carlene@nwlba.org

Staff Opportunities

PASTOR	MUSIC	YOUTH	CHILDREN	OTHER
Emmanuel - FT North Keithville - Bi-Vo Shreve City - Bi-Vo Waller - Bi-Vo	Lakeview - PT Trees - FT Westwood - PT Woodridge - FT	Barksdale - PT Emmanuel/S'port - PT Mooringport - PT North Keithville - PT Plain Dealing - FT Princeton FBC - PT Westwood - PT	Belcher - PT Ferry Lake - PT Eastwood - FT	Norris Ferry - Administrative Assistant - PT New Birth - Children's Church - Volunteer

Bethany Camp & Conference
Center *Trey Miller, Director*



Summer Camps come to a close here at Bethany. Our youth and children's camps are over. We have a few back-to-school college retreats left but we are celebrating the end of a great summer! And what a summer it has been. This time of the year is a rollercoaster of fun, excitement and fatigue, but this summer felt like it was maxed out! Around 2000 campers stayed at our facility over the last 7 weeks. They swam, they played, they worshipped and most importantly, they heard the gospel! I know of **over 20 students who met Jesus for the first time** from our Association churches. We are still waiting on some of our other camps to send us their summer review forms, so we will know about additional victories for Christ. Also, hundreds of church volunteers and staff members strengthened relationships with their students. We know that these stronger bonds will present more opportunities for discipleship and spiritual growth at their churches. Over 25 churches from our Association came together to form camps this year. It's wonderful to see the churches of our community working together to reach students more efficiently. I hope this partnership will grow as more churches see the opportunity and join our Student Camps and KidzKamps. I am grateful to each of our churches supporting such an impactful ministry and look forward to partnering again. Now we press on to our fall schedule!

WMU/MISSIONS/Virginia Disotell

We are from churches in this Association - all different and unique. Some of us have been in WMU for a long time, others have not. Some from churches with very active WMU or WOM groups, some that are not. Two of our council members have served on the mission field and therefore have firsthand knowledge of the results of what our Convention has done and can accomplish.

We are currently in the process of identifying things we can do to help your congregation, whether it is encouraging your members to pray for our missionaries, give to Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong and Georgia Barnette offerings, providing mission training opportunities, or provide missions events in our smaller communities.

Here is our council for this term:

Mission Study: *Kara Kelley*, First Baptist Church, Shreveport
Prayer Support: *Patty Kincaid*, Summer Grove Baptist Church
Music Leader: *Trisha Price*, Broadmoor Baptist Church
Mission Action: *Karen West*, Summer Grove Baptist Church
Children's Leader (interim): *Kathy Chrietberg*, Brookwood Baptist Church
Secretary/Treasurer: *Joyce Hammack*, Brookwood Baptist Church
Associate Director: *Pam Huber*, Lakeview Baptist Church
Director: *Virginia Disotell*, First Baptist Church, Haughton

The following are some of our upcoming events and mission opportunities:

- **LCIW-Jetson Gift Distribution** - Contact us for dates and specific requirements
- **Christmas in August** - Collect and ship items in the month of August.
- **Children's Mission Day** - September 17th
- **Baptist Nursing Fellowship** - September 16th – 17th at Tall Timbers
- **RefresHer** - September 24th at Summer Grove
- **Week of Prayer for State Missions and Georgia Barnett Offering** - September 11th – 18th.

For more information about these events and other mission opportunities, please contact us at 318-518-4520 or 318-686-5736, nlba.wmu@hotmail.com. We want to hear from you!



EAST TEXAS COUPLE SAYS THE MASADA LIVING CENTER IS AN ANSWER TO PRAYER

After 53 years of marriage, Linda and Mike have been through a lot. A new challenge for Linda was her recovery from surgery followed by 30 radiation treatments in Shreveport. With the price of gasoline and a round trip, two hour commute every day to the hospital, that option wasn't financially possible.



Linda and Mike Bean are members of our Narrow Gate Cowboy church in Vivian. A member told Linda about the Association's transitional living center on Pines Road. Without lodging at or near the hospital, Masada's affordable weekly rate would be a welcome option to prevent driving home each day.

A downstairs family room on Hosston Hall had just become available. After some paperwork and a meeting with Director John Anderson, Mike and Linda moved in. Their weekdays are spent in Shreveport just 10 minutes from Willis Knighton Hospital.

Mike also has his own challenges with the beginning stages of dementia. On doctor visit days Mike and Linda always wear the same bright colored shirts. If they get separated at the hospital Mike looks at his shirt and he remembers what Linda was wearing. It works!

The great partnership the Association has with our churches makes this unique type of ministry possible to those in need.



John Anderson prays with Linda and Mike after a recent hospital visit.

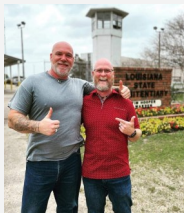


WMU® God's mission.
Our passion.

CULTURE WATCH National & World News

Louisiana Has The Only One!

The only fully constituted SBC church inside the walls of a prison is located in Angola, LA. Robert Hyde was pastor of Grace Baptist until he was recently granted parole. Bro. Robert stated at his release, *"I'm out from under a thousand pounds of debt and now I can really breathe."* No need to send a resume, they'll be hiring from within!



Military Recruitment is Plunging

Louisiana Congressman, Mike Johnson, who serves on the House Armed Services Committee recently warned, *"Imagine staying in business after losing 25% of your company?"* Air Force officials have 2,300 fewer recruits than this time last year. The Army hasn't even hit 50% of its goal for 2022. The Marine Corps said this year was their most challenging year for sign-ups since the draft was eliminated 40 years ago. Out of desperation, the military is offering up to \$50,000 in signing bonuses and recently announced it's dropping its high school graduation requirement.

Belief In God Hits New Low

For 78 years Gallup has been asking the same question. Do you believe in God? Today 17% of Americans say they are atheistic in their beliefs about God, the highest ever. Through the 1960's that number was around 2%. By 2011, the number of atheists had reached 8%. It's now doubled in just over a decade. The two groups with the biggest drop in their belief in God are young adults and those with liberal political views.

BELIEVING IN GOD

Source: Gallup News



Michigan's Attorney General: "A Drag Queen In Every School"

Dana Nessel, Michigan's first openly gay attorney general says there should be a drag queen in every school. Matt DePerno, who's running against Nessel for her re-election, says, *"This shows how out of touch she is with our state. Our test scores are some of the worst in the country thanks to these disastrous COVID lock downs and she's calling for drag shows for kindergartners?"*

Source: Detroit News

It's Easier To Find A Pastor Than A Pianist

Shortages of pianists have reached historic highs in churches. The more rural the church, the harder it is to find someone who plays the piano. Church leaders say they are now seeing the results of many years of cuts to music education programs in the church and schools. That and a lack of young people desiring to take piano lessons, have all contributed to the problem. Lifeway Christian Resources recent survey said 79% of churches still use a piano during worship. However, music soundtracks are making a strong surge out of necessity.



Source: The Christian Index

Pastor's Perspective



WHAT DOES GOD DESIRE?

From the beginning, God's people have made a habit of ignoring or forgetting the reality of what it means to serve Him. It is rather easy to fall into the trap of monotony in our service to God.

*Michael Reichard, Pastor
Koran Baptist Church,
Haughton, LA*

Following the narrative of the fall of Israel and later Judah, we see the rise of prophets at the proper times to speak to the people to stir revival in their hearts and call people to repentance and back to their true service to God. Indictments are contained in Isaiah, Hosea, Amos, Zechariah, and Micah just before the fall of Israel. God's word to the people is given by these prophets just as charges are read out in a court setting. Micah 6:2 says to "Listen to the Lord's Lawsuit..." and in verse six says, "What should I bring before the Lord when I come to bow before God on high? Should I come before Him with burnt offerings, with year-old calves?" Isaiah 1:11 says, "What are all your sacrifices to Me?" asks the Lord. "I have had enough of burnt offerings and rams and the fat of well-fed cattle; I have no desire for the blood of bulls, lambs, or male goats." In verse 13 of the same chapter He says, "Stop bringing useless offerings..."

They follow up with the pronouncement of what God actually wanted. Isaiah 1:16-31 provides the answer, as well as, Micah 6:8 which says, "He has told you men what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: Only to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God." The people of Israel heard the words of these prophets, as well as those from Hosea, Amos, and Zechariah which tell the same story. They heard the words but put into practice what they wanted to hear rather than what God said. The kings responded with doubling-down on offering sacrifices and the people rallied behind them, attending the festivals and bringing sacrifices of their own. Their rituals for the sake of ritual did not help them, and they will not help us either. Too many today believe they are doing a favor for God by attending worship. This same lie caused the downfall of both Israel and Judah.

Jesus takes up the same subject in the parable of The Good Samaritan when He brought charges against the religious leaders of His day. His main point was the same as the prophets; You cannot serve God in the Temple if you fail to serve Him outside the Temple (or even on the way to the Temple, as in this parable). They had forgotten the purpose of the Temple. Our duty to God is a duty to serve others. Equally detrimental is the warning given in Hebrews, not to forsake our assemblies. Our worship gatherings today should have a dual-purpose. We gather to celebrate the One who offered Himself to save us, and we gather to be equipped to serve those created in His image until all come to a saving faith in Jesus. We cannot forsake one for the other. Let us hear the words of the prophets.

Michael Reichard has been the pastor of Koran Baptist Church since 2011. Michael and his wife, Chelsey, have 3 children.