

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Staff Updates

Pastor Anniversaries

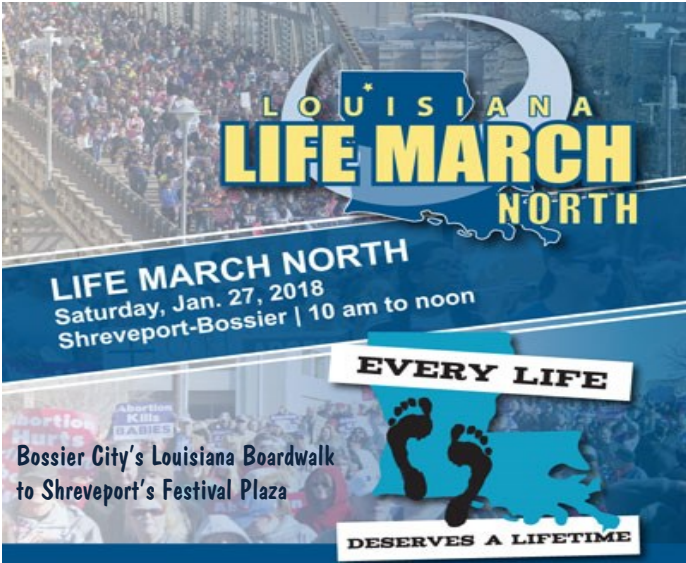
<i>Kendall Holley</i>	1998	Broadacres
<i>Gevan Spinney</i>	2002	Haughton
<i>Mike Anderson</i>	2004	Haynes Avenue
<i>Jim Gstohl</i>	2005	Tower
<i>Tracy Graham</i>	2006	Norris Ferry
<i>Roy Strother</i>	2014	Mooringsport

New Staff

Bossier FBC: *Ray Raney*, Operations Pastor, from Istrouma Baptist Church, Baton Rouge (wife: Alison)
Cross Point: *Mike Schultz*, Youth, to Pisgah Baptist Church, Forest Hills, LA, as Pastor
Kingston Road: *Dan Causey*, Interim Pastor
Vivian FBC: *Brett Puckitt*, Pastor, from FBC Kirtland, New Mexico, (wife: Rachel)

Staff Changes

Caddo Prairie: *Bill Stewart*, Pastor, from Interim
Gray: *Roy Davis*, Interim Pastor



Fellowship Trips

Cypress: Ireland Trip. Group 1-April 18-28, 2018. Group 2-April 22-May 2, 2018. \$3,499 plus \$250.00 (optional/insurance) Contact Cindy at 318-965-2296

Staff Opportunities				
PASTOR	MUSIC	YOUTH	CHILDREN	OTHER
Belcher Belle Park Brookwood Gray Kingston Road Mansfield Road New Bethel Red River Springs of Grace Summer Grove Willow Point	Bethany-PT Emmanuel/Vivian-PT Koran - PT Waller -PT	Ban Suk - PT Barksdale-PT Emmanuel S'port - PT Pilgrim Home - PT Princeton FBC - PT	Clarion - Children - PT Norris Ferry-FT N. Keithville - Children's Worker - PT Ferry Lake-PT	Emmanuel/Vivian-Pianist Ferry Lake-Pianist Northwoods - Secretary- PT Trinity Heights-Keyboardist Drummer Do not wish to receive this publication? Please contact us at carlene@nwlbba.org or 318-686-5736

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[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

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Church News & Calendar

Calvary: 2018 Night of Praise, Jan. 12, 6:30pm. Featuring Steel Magnolias, Ammer Gayle Whatley, Jake Cowley, Calep Lewis, Allen Family and Voices of Louisiana College.
Trees: Experience MEGA FORCE, Amazing Feats of Strength. Fun for the whole family. Sun., Jan.7, 10:45am & 6pm. Tues., Jan.9, 7pm. Wed., Jan.10, 7pm. For more info call 318-375-2104.
Trinity Heights: Ultimate Date Night, Jan. 19, 7pm. Jay & Laura Laffoon. A Marriage Celebration even a man will enjoy! Tickets available at THBC, \$25.00 per couple. More info at www.trinityheights.org
Westlake: Free choir robes and collars. 23 maroon & 25 ivory. Contact Donna Clayton at 318-929-4033.

Thank you to
Trinity Heights Baptist Church for hosting the
Annual Retirees Christmas Luncheon.

Our Special Guest was
Dr. Rick Brewer,
President, Louisiana College

Baptist News

"This Association exists to assist our family of churches in reaching and discipling people for Christ."

Volume 48, Number 1

January, 2018

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ON SUNDAY NIGHT
JANUARY 28, 2018



the Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association will gather again for the third annual **CALL TO PRAYER III**. Our host church for this year will be *Cypress Baptist Church* in Benton, La.

2017 has been a year of challenge for many of our churches as well as communities within Caddo and Bossier. Yet, for those churches in transition, God has greatly blessed many of the fellowships in the Association and they have much to rejoice in the Lord.

Therefore, as we begin 2018, calling out to God in prayer and with praise should be a priority for the Church.

As we begin this new year, I want to invite each of you who receive this monthly newsletter to join your larger Northwest family on January 28th at 6:00 pm. for a time of prayer and praise as we bow before the Lord. A year ago we had our largest number of churches participating as we gathered at Summer Grove.

Throughout the night there will be seasons of corporate prayer and times of personal repentance. Again, I have asked over 40 pastors and laymen to lead us in specific items of prayer. There will also be times of praise as the Cypress Choir and Praise Team lead us in worship. In addition we'll have designated times to pray for our First Responders, the Military and School Educators.

Our evening of prayer will be divided into several segments with each section opened with short devotions from these pastors.

- The Urgency to Pray as we Seek God - John Fream, Cypress Baptist Church, Benton*
- Repentance and Renewal - Brent Shoalmire, Oak Hill Baptist Church, Plain Dealing*
- Let the Church Rise Up - Greg Shyne, United Outreach Church, Bossier City*
- Break our Hearts for the Lost - Colin Wimberly, Trinity Heights Baptist Church, Shreveport*

Bring your friends and family to Cypress Baptist Church on Sunday night January 28th.

Blessings,
Lane

SUNDAY NIGHT
6:00 PM
Cypress Baptist Church, Benton, LA
Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association

BRANSON@BETHANY Christmas Show was a huge success! This was our 11th year, and we had almost 1500 Senior Adults in attendance.

WMU/MISSIONS
Rhonda Berry

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I am looking forward to 2018! I want first to thank the folks at our Association office and Camp Bethany for all of the help they give us throughout the year. There are many things that would not get accomplished without them.

Some events are coming up that you will not want to miss. February 6 is our quarterly meeting and we will meet at the Association office - 5875 W. 70th Street. We will begin at 10:00 am. Please bring a salad or dessert. Tea, rolls, and coffee will be provided.

Our May 1 meeting will be held at Brookwood Baptist Church at 10:00am.

It's not too early to begin planning your

Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer emphasis. The dates are March 4-11, 2018. If your church has never had a special emphasis this is a good time to start. There is a planning guide on the North American Mission Board website (namb.net).

I Look forward to serving with you in the months ahead.



Camp Bethany
Robert Cole

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I trust and pray God is and will bless you and yours in 2018. It seems January always brings a new excitement as the Apostle Paul wrote, “we forget what is behind us and we press on for the mark of our high calling in Jesus Christ.” It is an awesome privilege to serve the King of Kings and Lord of Lords as we serve you and the churches of the Northwest Baptist Louisiana.

We look forward to seeing you this year at a day, weekend, or week long event out here at Camp Bethany.

We are continuing to make changes, and hopefully, improvements to your Camp. Our grass cutting crew is super excited about our newest project. Our incredible and wonderful friend, Cliff Roberts, successfully destroyed and removed the old putt - putt golf course. The guys were doing flips as they celebrated the removal of all that concrete. No more will they be told, “it’s time to weed-eat Putt -Putt!!!!” I was a little sad to be honest. A lot of sweat and

toil went into the construction of that course, but it was not being used very much and the change will be better. We are going to put in a human foosball court. This will be an interesting and potentially entertaining new arena. We will see. I know it’s cold and a long time from summer, but we already have two churches signed up for **Kidz Kamp** and one for our new **North Louisiana Baptist Youth Camp** which will be led by Warren Jackson’s Clear teams. You need to join them to get the week you want.

Camp Bethany
318/938.1221
Fax:318/938.1220
www.campbethany.co

The **ANNUAL BI-VOCATIONAL PASTORS CHRISTMAS DINNER** was held at Shreve City Baptist Church. Guest Soloist, Harold Ashcraft



ASSOCIATION / LBC UPCOMING DATES

January 22-23 Evangelism Conference / FBC Pineville
January 27 March For Life (details on back page)
January 29 NLBA CALL TO PRAYER III
Cypress Baptist Church, 6 pm
February 6 WMU Associational Meeting/Assoc. Office



NLBA 2018
Harvest
Sunday School Training
for Small Groups

Monday Night– February 12th 6-8 PM
Host Location: Brookwood Baptist Church

Sessions for: Children, Youth & Adult Leadership
“Putting Evangelism Back In Sunday School”



The BCM has two important upcoming events that you can help us share.

First, on **Thursday, January 25**, our BCM is hosting our annual **Go: Send Dinner for Missions**. It will be at the BCM Center on the LSU-S campus beginning at **6:30pm**. Our goal is to challenge students to serve in missions and to raise money to send them as they go. In addition to dinner with our students and silent auction items on which to bid, we will be celebrating all the summer missionaries who have served throughout the history of Shreveport BCM! Come and join us!



Also, the **Collegiate Evangelism Conference (CEC)** will be held **February 2-3** at Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria. Our speaker is **Rahul Agarwal**, with music by **The House Band**. The cost is \$35 for college students and \$15 for high school juniors and seniors preparing to



December 2017 Mission trip to South Louisiana

Jamey Droddy, BCM Director, 318-797-1946, droddy@gmail.com

transition to college. To register a group visit or to register individual students, contact me at Shreveport BCM. We would be glad to have your college group or college students you know join up with us!

UPCOMING Monthly EVENTS

January 2018 1	Association Office Closed
2	Association Office Reopens
15 DATE CHANGE	Bi-Vocational 6:30 Association Office
30	Pastors Prayer 9:00 am Association Office

A Pastor's Perspective

The Blessed Hope we Have in Jesus!



Mike Stowell,
Pastor,

First Baptist Keithville
Keithville, LA

Through the months of November and December, I have had to prepare for some five or six funerals. All have been Christian members here at our church or close Christian friends. In each one of those services, though often hard, I have been able to point out that in Jesus we have a blessed hope, a wonderful hope of heaven’s glory. That brings a lot of comfort and encouragement in our world today. For as Christians, it is so very true that physical death in Christ is not a final goodbye.

How comforting to know the reality that our loved ones are safe at home in the arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus

Christ. He said “*Let not your hearts be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you, I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (For) I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*” (John 14:1-6)

That is a beautiful promise from God, and He never breaks His promises. Our family, our friends, our employers, our co-workers, our government, and others often break their promises to us-but God never does! And for all who will confess and repent of their sins and by faith trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of their lives, receiving the precious gift of His grace, God promises not only to forgive, but to save for all of eternity! How wonderful and comforting this is to know when our loved ones pass from this life into eternity.

My dad (the late Rev. Bill Stowell) often used a passage of scripture found in Psalm 116:15. “*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.*” And then, my dad would say, “*death is never precious in our sight, but it is so very precious in the sight of God when one of His children comes home to ‘well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter now into the joy of thy Lord.’*”

It is my prayer that these words will be of comfort and encouragement to keep on keeping on for Jesus no matter what we may face in the coming new year. For Jesus said “I am come that you may have life and that you may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)

Mike Stowell has been pastor at First Keithville since 1987. For 3 decades, Bro. Mike has been a loving shepherd to the people of Keithville. In recent years the church has gone through a major building project as Keithville and surrounding communities experience growth.