

Staff Updates

Pastor Anniversaries

Robert Beadle	1993	FBC, Benton
Larry Black	2002	Faith Fellowship
Shaun Armstrong	2009	Grace
Mark Crook	2010	Trees
Shane Nugent	2012	Cross Point
Chris Willcutt	2015	Grawood
Wade Allen	2016	Pilgrim Home
Scott Teutsch	2020	Trinity Heights
Matt Tyson	2022	3:18 Church

Staff Changes

Ford Park: *Freddie Williford*, resigning to Beulah Baptist, Mansfield, LA, as Pastor
Trinity Heights: *Dan Lay*, Business Admin., retiring

New Staff

Springs of Grace: *Grant Rose*, Pastor, from Denton, TX (wife, Kara)
Woodridge: *Josh Jacobs*, Youth, from Potsboro TX (wife, Teresa)



Lane Moore recently interviewed Pastor Mike Stone who is one of two announced candidates for SBC President. To watch the hour-long Q & A you can go to the Northwest Louisiana Baptist

Association Facebook page. Subject matters ranged from the biblical role of women in ministry, the Executive Committee, the Cooperative Program, past sexual abuse issues, to the future of the SBC.

Can you help us?

Masada Transitional Living Center

is in need of: Paper Towels & Toilet Paper

Please bring any donations to the Association Office.

Fellowship Trips

Ellerbe: Israel Trip, Feb. 1-10, 2024. Bethlehem, Nazareth, Cana, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Mount Carmel, Caesarea, Garden of Gethsemane, Golgotha, Garden Tomb, Beersheba, & 23 more Biblical sites. \$4,440. Contact Dennis Sims, Dennis@EllerbeBaptist.org
Woodridge: Senior group trip to Branson. Sept. 26-29, 2023. \$613 for double occupancy. Includes transportation, room, 4 breakfasts, 3 dinners, 5 shows, Titanic Museum. Contact Linda Lynch, 318-422-9259 or church office, 318-861-3519 for more details.

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

Emanuel: 2012 Ford E-450 25 passenger people mover. 40,000 miles. \$35,000 or best offer. Call 318-464-2455 or 318-773-9165

Blanchard FBC: *CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?* Workshop. How to Initiate Gospel Conversations & Answer Objections to the Gospel. Guest Speaker, Preston Condra, Sufficient Word Ministries. June 11, 5-6:30 pm. Light meal provided. Register at: <https://fbcblanchard.churchcenter.com/registrations/event/1628327>, call 318-929-2346.

Narrow Gate: Heaven's Gates & Hell's Flames Drama, Vivian Elementary/Middle school auditorium. June 4,5, & 6, at 7 pm each night. To get involved, contact Eric Cunningham, 318-465-7246.



Staff Opportunities

PASTOR	MUSIC	YOUTH	CHILDREN	OTHER
Ford Park - Bi-Vo Haynes Avenue - Bi-Vo Shreve City - Bi-Vo Westlake - Bi-Vo	Belle Park - PT Lakeview - PT Westwood - PT	Barksdale - PT Eastwood - FT North Keithville - PT Plain Dealing - PT/FT Princeton FBC - PT Westwood - PT Vivian FBC - FT	Belcher - PT Ferry Lake - PT	Bethany - Nursery Coordinator - PT Blanchard - Hourly Nursery Workers Emmanuel - Janitor/Custodian - PT New Birth - Children's Church - Volunteer



VBS TURNS 100 YEARS OLD IN LOUISIANA
... AND IT ALL STARTED IN CEDAR GROVE

In the summer of 1923 something occurred for children in Louisiana that had never been done before. A program developed in the early 1900's in New York City by Dr. Robert G. Boville, was brought to northwest Louisiana. Over several years the Rev. Luther Holmes and his wife had organized nearly 40 summer schools for children in the northern part of the country using Dr. Boville's teaching model. After some additional training that Holmes received at Southwestern Seminary, he had an opportunity to organize a summer school just south of Shreveport at the Cedar Grove Baptist Church.

The following is an excerpt from the July 22, 1923 Sunday edition of the **Shreveport Times**.

The first Vacation Bible School in the state is being held at Cedar Grove Baptist Church. Sessions for the school are held from Monday to Friday, from four to six weeks, and between 9 and 11:45am. The school has been successful in every way. The enrollment the first day was over 90. At the close, 277 children were enrolled. The Bible memory part has been from the Psalms and parts of the Old Testament as well as portions from the New Testament. The song periods have been used to familiarize the pupils with several of the finest of the church hymns as well as the more modern gospel songs. The Bible memory work and songs have been learned by only exercise of the mental powers, concentrated on the work of the moment. No mechanical devices such as the printed page has been permitted. The result has been that what the pupils have learned, they have really learned, not simply memorized for the minute.



I'm not old enough to recall a sheet of paper as a "mechanical device," but clearly a century ago devices were not nearly as complicated as they are today. Pastors and church leaders, you should have no trouble enlisting VBS workers for a few days. Just tell them if they lived a hundred years ago, VBS would last all summer!

The community of Cedar Grove, Louisiana, incorporated in 1914. The church began the same year. Rev. L.F Maynard was pastor (1922-1925) when the first VBS was held at Cedar Grove. The church was located at 6501 Henderson Ave. The church changed its name in 1925 to Southside Baptist Church, and continued until their closing in 2022. Shreveport expanded south and annexed Cedar Grove into the city in 1927, thus ending the short thirteen year township of Cedar Grove.

Just a few hundred yards north of the former church location is the current Fairfield Elementary School. Further evidence of growth in the community in the early 1900's was the building of the Cedar Grove Public School in 1923. Fairfield Magnet will always bear the markings above its front doors when Cedar Grove was a town south of Shreveport.

This article is why churches should archive their history. Your past documents are a historical record of those who have served the Lord before you. A special thanks to the former membership at Southside for preserving their rich history.



This summer, remember your Northwest Association, or as it was named then, the Caddo Association, was first in the state where VBS started.

Let's make year 100 a great VBS summer!
Lane

Shreveport Baptist Collegiate Ministry

Stephen Craver, Director



Every year when the school year winds down and summer draws near, three fun events bring the semester to a close. The first is our annual BCM Semi-Formal. Our students dress up and enjoy a night of food, fellowship, and recognition. We took time to recognize our graduating seniors, leadership team, and campus missionaries. All of these groups made a great spring semester possible. A special thank you to the ladies of Ellerbe Road Baptist Church who provided food for this event!



The next is our Pancake Study Break. Finals can be the most stressful week of the year for our students so this event provides them with a pancake dinner and a relaxing environment to do their studying. Thank you to the Pope Small Group of Broadmoor Baptist Church who helped make this event possible by coming and cooking for our students.

The final event, which is one of our favorites, is the annual BCM Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. It's the time we get to say "thank you" to all the churches and volunteers who have brought lunches, invested time, and financially partnered with us on conferences and mission trips. Lives have been impacted and several students have made commitments to Christ.

All of these events show the heart of the BCM ministry - churches and the BCM coming together to bless students and to meet them on the campus where they attend.



SBC Presidency: Current President Bart Barber seeks re-election against Mike Stone

Pastor Bart Barber of First Baptist, Farmersville, Texas, will be nominated for a second one-year term as President. Mike Stone, pastor of First Baptist, Blackshear, Georgia, as of this printing, appears to be Barber's only challenger. Stone was nominated two years ago in Nashville, but narrowly lost to Ed Litton.

NAMB Church Planting 'Class of 2022' pushes SBC past 10,000 new churches planted since 2010

Southern Baptists planted 745 churches in 2022, 106 of which were replants. There were also 46 second campus locations launched and 126 churches that newly affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, for a total of 917 new congregations added to the convention in 2022.



Still no President of the Executive Committee in Nashville

Some awkwardness came in a special called EC meeting in May as the Search Committee unanimously brought a candidate to the entire Committee for a vote. In an unprecedented move, the Executive Committee voted down Texas Pastor Jared Wellman 50-31 as its next President. Wellman had been a past chairman of the EC. Tensions surrounding the vote included the fact that Wellman was a member of the search team until he recused himself in late January in order for his name to be submitted as a candidate. Willie McLaurin continues to serve as interim President.

New Ethnic Research Network to be introduced at annual meeting

Minh Ha Nguyen, with the IMB has been gathering data for twenty years on changes within the Convention. "We're more diverse than people realize and we're going to showcase that. We want to tell the ethnic story of what God is doing globally from a minority perspective," Nguyen stated. Also **Hispanic Baptists** are planning for evangelistic events at Crossover New Orleans, along with a time of fellowship and equipping opportunities for pastors. A first-ever meeting of Myanmar (Burmese) Baptist churches is one of many Asian gatherings in New Orleans. **The Asian Collective**, comprised of more than 2,000 SBC churches and representing 27 nationalities, "brings new hope in fulfilling the Great Commission as they are committed to reaching the fast-growing Asian population with the Gospel," said Peter Yanes, Vice President with Asian relations of the Executive Committee.



Note: Northwest Association has 2 Myanmar (Burmese), 2 Korean, 1 Chinese, and 4 Hispanic

Convention News
Source: Baptist Press

CULTURE WATCH & National News



NYC Church unveils "God Is Trans" Exhibit

Only days after St. Paul the Apostle Church in Manhattan unveiled a series of paintings of "queer" art, the church removed it after pushback from its own Archdiocese of New York. The exhibit was located on the wall adjacent to the altar behind where the priest would stand. The Manhattan church has a long reputation of promoting agendas contrary to the Bible's teaching on human sexuality and gender.

Source: Catholic Vote

David Dockery Named 10th Southwestern Seminary President

Also, recently retired Guidestone President, O.S. Hawkins, was named Seminary Chancellor. Dr. Dockery stated, "We recognize we stand on the shoulders of so many who've gone before us. I love this institution and the best aspects of its history. We will, with God's help, seek to carry forward the best of Southwestern's heritage and the Southwestern's spirit."



Source: Baptist Press



Chinese Communists Intend To Erase Christianity...It Won't Happen

The Chinese government has told Christians not to evangelize, preach, print, proselytize, or in some cases pray, especially in the name of Jesus. The

Chinese Communist Party has continued to destroy churches, arrest and abuse Christians, forcibly cause clergy to "disappear," and attempt to coerce Christians into proclaiming Marxist principles from the pulpit in place of the Bible.

Source: Washington Stand

Nearly 700 Professors Sign Letter In Opposition To Teaching About America's Founding And Constitution

House bill 96 in the North Carolina State Legislature says that required courses on the US government and its founding documents be mandated in all schools. Hundreds of professors from the University of North Carolina signed a petition to announce they wouldn't participate, saying it violated campus autonomy. Some of the required reading in the classes include the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Gettysburg Address, and MLK's letter from the Birmingham jail.

Source: American Greatness



Who Are The Happiest People?

America's happiest people value community, relationships and their faith according to a recent Wall Street Journal-NORC poll. However, the poll found that only 12% of Americans describe themselves as "very happy," which was the lowest ever recorded. The older you were, the happier you were, with those over 60 as the happiest. Of those who were the happiest, two-thirds said faith was very important in their lives.

Source: NORC University of Chicago



THE BAPTIST FAITH & MESSAGE

What We Believe
as Southern Baptists

We continue with our series on the Baptist Faith & Message 2000, with this month's column.

Article III: Man

"Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love."

God's crowning act of creation occurred when "the LORD God formed man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being." Gen. 2:7.

Every person, regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, abilities, socioeconomic class, or even behavior retains God-given worth and dignity. We are set apart from the rest of creation, and His work of redemption is directed specifically to the salvation of men and women who have been tarnished by sin.

God's glory is revealed in the distinctions between men and women. God took Eve from Adam's side, not his head or feet. Men and women best glorify God when they carry out the complementary roles He has given them. The gender chaos that prevails in modern society grieves the heart of God.

All people are born with an inclination to sin, and all people act upon this tendency to live independently of God through willful rebellion against Him. This alienates people from God and merits His divine justice. (Romans 3:10, 23, 6:23)

God sent His Son to redeem us. Jesus' sinless life, sacrificial and substitutionary death on the cross, and physical resurrection from the dead purchased the salvation of all who repent and trust in Him.

Next month: Article IV of the BF&M: Salvation