

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Staff Updates

Pastor Anniversaries

Ed Gonzalez	2003	Linwood
Jesse Colston	2012	FBC, Oil City
John McCatherty	2021	Ferry Lake

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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

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NLBA ASSOCIATION VBS & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING

Being the best leaders we can be is a simple thing that we can do to reach kids and their families for Christ. Training will be offered for Lifeway VBS along with some previews of other VBS opportunities, and in all areas of Children's Ministry. There will also be training for small group leaders, Wednesday night leaders, special event leaders, and anyone who works with children.



Saturday, March 5, 2022
8am-3pm
Cost: \$10
(includes box lunch)

First Baptist Houghton,
105 E. Washington Ave.,
Houghton, LA

Register Deadline: March 2, 2022 Call: 318-449-4226

Church News

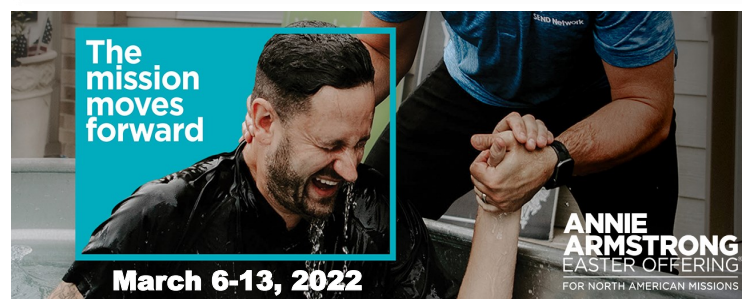
Cypress: *Fresh Grounded Faith*, featuring Jennifer Rothschild, Liz Curtis Higgs & Meredith Andrews, March 25, 7 pm - 9:30 pm, March 26, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm., 4701 Palmetto Rd., Benton, LA. For tickets: 800-859-7992 or FreshGroundedFaith.com



Bring the whole family and join us for a one mile **LANTERN WALK** to support the **CARE Pregnancy Center**. We will have booths and a food truck to make it a nice evening in the park for the whole family.

Date: April 2, 2022 **Time:** 5:45 pm
Location: Walker Place Park, 2010 Arthur Ray Teague Parkway, Bossier City, LA
Registration starts on January 18, 2022
GiveThemOptions.com

Our monthly newsletter is posted on our mobile-friendly website, www.nwlba.org. Just click on MENU, then NEWS.



Staff Opportunities

PASTOR	MUSIC	YOUTH	CHILDREN	OTHER
North Keithville - Bi-Vo Red River - Bi-Vo Shreve City - Bi-Vo	Lakeview - PT Oil City FBC - PT Trees - FT Woodridge - FT	Barksdale - PT Ellerbe - FT Elm Grove - PT Emmanuel/S'port - PT Grawood - PT Mooringsport - PT North Keithville - PT Princeton FBC - PT Westwood - PT	Belcher - PT Ferry Lake - PT	Haughton FBC- Preschool-FT

Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association

Baptist News

Churches, Missions & Ministries Working Together To Be More Effective

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 3,
MARCH 2022



Scenes from CALL TO PRAYER VII

Several hundred gathered at Woodridge Baptist Church for the purpose of prayer. Pastors from over 30 different churches prayed and preached. The Choir encouraged everyone through song and a special focus of prayer was given for our schools and children. Some of the "Dads On Duty" from Southwood High School were prayed over.

As prayer topics changed throughout the evening, four pastors shared God's Word. Chuck McInturf - Woodridge, Thomas Myles - New Birth, Heath Peloquin - Summer Grove, and Dennis Sims - Ellerbe Road.

If you were unable to attend, you can go to NWLBA Facebook and participate in CALL TO PRAYER VII at your convenience.



LBCEA

LOUISIANA BAPTIST CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

And
**Northwest Association
Executive Board Leadership Session**

March 14th at Brookwood Baptist Church

**Engaging Leadership to
Connect Multi-Culturally**

Led by: Dr. Jeff Iorg, President,
Gateway Seminary

**11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Lunch Served. Cost: \$15**

Register with Catherine.Hall@LouisianaBaptists.org by March 4, 2022

What's The Spiritual Landscape of Louisiana?

As we strive to be a Godly witness to our neighbors, we know the landscape is ever changing. At the 2022 State Evangelism Conference, this snapshot of our state was provided to assist our church leaders in evangelism.

- * **28%** of Louisiana residents say they would classify themselves as Evangelical.
- * **27%** say they are Roman Catholic. (*far less than anticipated*)
- * **7%** of Louisiana residents say they are Southern Baptist
- * **41%** say they are unaffiliated with any faith. (*Louisiana's largest denomination*)

There was a term several years ago that was used to describe those unaffiliated with any religion. They are called "NONES." 44% of all Generation Z (*born between 1997 - 2012*) claim to be a *None*. They may not be antagonistic toward anything concerning God, faith or the church. They're simply not interested. They're quiet content to be unaffiliated. 88% of all *Nones*, across all age groups, say they are not looking for any kind of church or religion. Because of that, they are the fastest growing "religious" demographic of our day.

If your church is going to reach the *Nones*, they are going to come to you as a *None*. That means they will come as couples living together, same sex couples, pregnant outside of marriage, possibly some type of addiction, and usually skeptical of what they call organized religion.

James E. White's book *Rise of the None's* would be a wise educational read for any serious church leader desiring to reach the unchurched with the gospel.

WMU/MISSIONS/Rhonda Berry

Our year has begun with enthusiasm!



Plans are being made for the months ahead. As you plan your children's activities, you will want to include **Missions & More Camp** in November. As soon as we have our leaders lined up we will send more details. Dates for the camp are November 4 & 5, at Bethany Camp &

Conference. Recently, I was told by a children's leader that several of their children made professions of faith at M&M Camp. We often hear the negative feedback but seldom the positive. Whatever our theme, we always have a time of presenting the Gospel.

Thank you to the WMU at Haynes Avenue Baptist Church for hosting our quarterly meeting in February. Lorri Seagraves shared about her work in Spain. In our new tradition, we went out to eat for lunch after the meeting. Our attendance continues to increase, and we are thankful for this. We are still on mission, working within the constraints of the last couple of years. We invite you to join us. **Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 3 at 10:00 am.** Location to be announced.



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SMALL CAMP
PRICE**

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PER
STUDENT**



STUART HALL
SPEAKER



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WORSHIP BAND

JUNE 13-17

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Disposable dinnerware, bath towels, twin size blankets, Lysol spray, paper towels, toilet paper. If you can help with any of these needs, please contact John Anderson, Compassion Ministry Strategist, janderson@nwiba.org or 318-230-3446

Can you help us?

Call 318-965-2296 For More Information.

ruraltoregional.com

**RURAL TO REGIONAL CONFERENCE
MARCH 30-31, 2022
CYPRESS BAPTIST CHURCH - BENTON, LA**

featuring:

Johnny Hunt

John Fream

Steve Horn

CULTURE WATCH

NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS



"Not Much Has Changed Since Roe and Casey"... Oh Really?

That statement was made by Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan during recent oral arguments at the Supreme Court. Dr. Tara Sander Lee, senior fellow and director of life sciences at the Charlotte Lozier Institute, disagreeing said, "Back in 1973, ultrasound technology displayed a baby using grainy, black and white dots. Now, 4D ultrasound enables us to see the baby cry after receiving an injection, smile, yawn, hiccup, suck their thumb and even determine if the baby tends to be right-handed or left-handed." A lot has changed, Justice Kagan!

UK Church Leaders Prepare to Face Charges

Over 500 church leaders from across the United Kingdom have written to the government to say they are prepared to face criminal charges if a conversion therapy ban is introduced, according to *The Christian Post*. The pastors stated in their letter, "It should not be a criminal offence for us to instruct our children that God made them male and female, in His image, and has reserved sex for the marriage of one man and one woman."



Southwestern Seminary Legendary Professor MacGorman Dies at 100

Dr. Jack MacGorman, professor of New Testament at SWBTS, died two days shy of his 101 birthday. The long-time professor taught for five decades at Southwestern and is the namesake of the MacGorman Chapel on the Fort Worth campus. Southwestern Seminary president, Dr. Adam Greenway, stated, "His influence in the lives of thousands of students and the churches those students would go on to serve is beyond calculation."



College Students Afraid to Express Views in the Classroom

In Heterodox Academy's 2020 Campus Expression Survey, found that 62% of sampled college students agreed that the political climate on campus prevented them from saying things they believed, up from 55% in 2019, while 41% were reluctant to discuss politics in a classroom, up from 32% in 2019. Some 60% of college students said they were reluctant to speak up because they were concerned other students would criticize them.



Millennials Unsure of the Meaning of Life

Adults born between the years of 1984 and 2002, are defined as millennials. Tens of millions of them, in fact 75% of them, sadly stated they are unsure of the purpose of their lives, according to a new study from Barna Research. Also, half of all millenials said, "life is what you make it" and that there is "no absolute value associated with human life."



Pastor's Perspective



Dr. Mark Crook, Pastor,
Trees Baptist Church,
Vivian, LA

GOD'S GOT YOU!!

Where should God's children go in times of trouble? David answers this question in Psalm 18:1-2.

I will love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

- 1. God is my strength.** Heb "my strength." "Strength" is metonymic here, referring to the Lord as the one who bestows strength to the psalmist; thus the translation "my source of strength."
- 2. God is my rock or high ridge.** *My high ridge.* This metaphor pictures God as a rocky, relatively inaccessible summit, where one would be able to find protection from enemies. See 1 Sam 23:25, 28.
- 3. God is my fortress or stronghold.** *My stronghold.* David often found safety in such strongholds. See 1 Sam 22:4-5; 24:22; 2 Sam 5:9, 17; 23:14.
- 4. God is my deliverer.** A deliverer is one who rescues from danger. More often God is spoken of as the Deliverer of His people (2 Samuel 22:2; Psalm 18:2; Psalm 40:17; Psalm 144:2). The picture of God as deliverer is paralleled with the images of a rock, fortress, helper, and strong tower.
- 5. God is my shield and the horn of my salvation.** The horn, as the means of attack or defense of some of the strongest animals, is a frequent emblem of power or strength efficiently exercised.
- 6. God is my stronghold or refuge.** Or "my elevated place." The parallel version of this psalm in 2 Samuel 22:3 adds at this point, "my refuge, my savior, (you who) save me from violence."

Where should God's children go in times of trouble? Go to God! *God's Got You!!*

Dr. Mark Crook has been the pastor of Trees Baptist Church since 2010. Mark and his wife Karen have two daughters and two grandchildren.