

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

Staff Updates

Pastor Anniversaries

<i>J. P. Ricard</i>	1999	New Beginnings
<i>Kenny Joyner</i>	2018	Willow Point
<i>Heath Peloquin</i>	2018	Summer Grove
<i>Billy Flowers</i>	2021	FBC Greenwood

Sympathy

Dr. W. D. (Step) Martin
1933-2022
Former Northwest Association Pastor of
Calvary Baptist Church

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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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Mark your Calendars

NLBA CALL TO PRAYER VIII
Sunday, February 5, 2023
6 pm First Baptist Blanchard



Special thanks to the First Baptist Shreveport family for hosting the **52nd Annual Meeting**. Pastors met earlier that morning for a Q & A time with Dr. Willie McLaurin, President of the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville. Messengers and guests gathered in Frost Chapel for the Business session, followed by a keynote address from Dr. McLaurin. Operating budgets for 2023 were approved for Bethany Camp & Conference Center and the Association.

Thanks to outgoing Moderator, Dr. Mark Crook, pastor at Trees Baptist for his past service and thanks to Steve Miller, music minister at North Shreve Baptist, for leading us in worship.



NEWS AROUND the ASSOCIATION

Christmas Event: *Christmas, As It Should Be.* Emmett Hook Theater, Dec. 9, 7 pm, Dec. 10, 4 pm & 7 pm. Tickets can be purchased at: <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/philipandfriends/7107>.

North Shreve: *Trevor Thomas LIVE!* Dec. 18, 11 am. Love offering.

2022 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Church Contributions to
Association Budget - \$142,140.91
Budget Expenses of Association - \$130,987.44

Staff Opportunities

PASTOR	MUSIC	YOUTH	CHILDREN	OTHER
Belcher - Bi-Vo Elm Grove - Bi-Vo Emmanuel - Full Time North Keithville - Bi-Vo Shreve City - 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	Bethany - Nursery Coordinator - PT Norris Ferry - Administrative Assistant - PT New Birth - Children's Church - Volunteer

Northwest Louisiana Baptist Association

*Churches, Missions &
Ministries Working
Together To Be
More Effective*



Baptist News

VOLUME 52, NUMBER 11
NOVEMBER 2022

TIME TO BE THANKFUL



Thanksgiving is around the corner and even as we watch the world in a tailspin of sin and depravity, the Body of Christ has much to be grateful to our Father. The first Pilgrims were Separatists, a sect of Protestants who felt they would be unable to reform the Church of England and would need to separate and form their own church. After much persecution, they fled to Holland and eventually to America.

The Pilgrims obtained a land grant for Virginia and set sail aboard the Mayflower on September 6, 1620. An extremely rough Atlantic ocean pushed them hundreds of miles northward to what would be called Massachusetts. They made landfall on November 11th.

The harsh winter was already well underway. Having no homes or shelter of any kind when they landed, in the months ahead half of the 102 settlers died. In spite of the tragedy, unexpected blessings came from the Wampanoag Indians who were willing to help the Pilgrims by showing them how to survive, hunt, and fish in this new land.

Even though it was a harsh winter, the first harvest was enough to meet their immediate needs, and they had reason to celebrate. The governor of Plymouth Colony called a three-day festival inviting 90 Indians to join the 50 Pilgrims. This feast, which included times of thanks to God as well as athletic competitions and fellowship, is considered the first Thanksgiving in America.

Plymouth Governor Edward Winslow stated, "Along with some ninety of their men and their great king Massasoit, whom for three days we entertained and feasted; they went out and killed five deer, and bestowed upon all of us. And although it will not always be so plentiful, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want."

Even though President George Washington issued the first federal Thanksgiving proclamation in 1789, celebrations occurred only sporadically for several more decades. It was not until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln issued a national Thanksgiving proclamation, that subsequent presidents followed annually. Congress in 1941 passed a law establishing Thanksgiving as an official national holiday.

I'm so grateful for each of you that are a part of the Northwest family of churches. Have a blessed Thanksgiving holiday.

NLBA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

11 am Leadership Session

Can I ask You A Question?

Written & led by Preston Condra, Fayetteville, AR

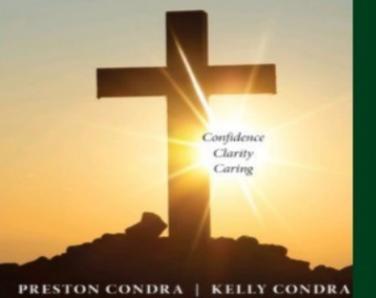
A simple and natural way to begin a spiritual conversation. You'll receive handouts and books to get your church members started.

Will help church members over their 3 biggest fears:

- I don't know what to say
- What if I offend someone
- What if I get objections

Can I Ask You A QUESTION?

Sharing Christ Effectively



PRESTON CONDRA | KELLY CONDRA

Thursday,
November 10, 2022

South Bossier Baptist Church



Disaster Relief Updates & Future Training Opportunities
Led by: John Cowling, Rolling Hills Ministries

12 Noon Lunch & Business Meeting

1155 Sligo Road
Bossier City, LA

PLEASE RSVP

318-686-5736 or carlene@nwlba.org



KIDZWKND

TRANSIT WORSHIP BAND

A Kids Winter Camp Experience

JAN 27-29

\$85 Per Person



For More Info . . .
Email - lynn@airlinebaptist.com

Register @
BethanyC3.com

Bethany Camp & Conference Center

Trey Miller, Director

1Wknd and KidZWknd are the perfect opportunity for student and children's ministers and volunteer staff to connect and strengthen relationships with your kids and students. It's also a wonderful opportunity for kids and students to form friendships with those from other churches.



Bethany

Camp & Conference Center
Bethanyc3.com

REGISTER ONLINE NOW

at bethanyc3.com. If you have any questions, please call us at 318-938-1221.



2023
JANUARY 20-22



DEREK GRIFFON



\$85

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A YOUTH WINTER CAMP EXPERIENCE @ CAMP BETHANY

FOR MORE INFO TEXT CODIE SMITH 318-230-3033 OR JERRAD EDMONDS 318 423-2046

WMU/MISSIONS / Virginia Disotell



RefresHer 2022 is in the history books. It was a great time of reconnecting with churches who have missed due to COVID. We heard from area ministries about ways we can serve the hurting and lost in our community. Sixty women from thirteen churches throughout the

Association attended this year's RefresHer. With our guest speakers, there were a total of seventy-three people in attendance!

We are grateful to Summer Grove Baptist Church for hosting this event. Thank you!

WMU
God's mission.
Our passion.

GO, TELL, MAKE DISCIPLES!



CULTURE WATCH & National News



Parents Fed Up: Nearly 2 Million Kids Pulled From Public Schools in America

Between 2020 & 2021 parents across the country rose up against burdensome COVID regulations, and woke, anti-American curriculum, and have pulled their kids out of public schools. Some Catholic schools have reported a 50% increase in enrollment during the 2021-22 academic year. Home schooling curriculum requests jumped 63% last year.

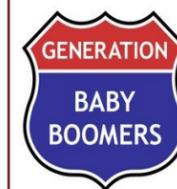
Polling Source: Education Next

Texas Fire Dept. Chaplain Fired For Biblical View Of Gender

Andrew Fox had served as chaplain of the Austin, Texas, Fire Department since 2013. He posted a three-part blog on his personal website. Fox made statements relating to the ridiculousness of gender identity and the lunacy of men competing against women. There was never a specific claim of how Fox's statements harmed anyone, only that there were "general concerns." Alliance Defending Freedom has a lawsuit pending. This mirrors the firing case of Shreveport native Kelvin Cochran's suit while serving as Atlanta, Georgia, Fire Chief. Cochran was ultimately awarded 1.2 million in damages in a settlement with the city of Atlanta.



Source: The Washington Stand



Baby Boomers Are Sicker Than Their Parents Were At The Same Age

Americans born from 1946 to 1964 are more likely than generations that preceded them to have multiple health problems as they age. Studies show that many develop two or more health conditions up to 20 years sooner than their parents. Penn State researcher, Steven Haas, stated that rising rates of obesity, depression and diabetes were major drivers of chronic health problems in Baby Boomers.

Published Source: The Journals of Gerontology

Called To Account: Pastor Highlights Gov. Newsom's Unbiblical Worldview

California Pastor John MacArthur recently penned an open letter to all media outlets calling for the Governor to repent over a series of recent bills. Newsom also ran a billboard campaign using scripture to promote abortion. MacArthur called the governor's policies "an unholy, upside-down view of honor and morality." Concerning the billboards, the pastor's letter stated, "you further compounded the wickedness of that murderous campaign with a reprehensible act of gross blasphemy, quoting the very words of Jesus from Mark 12:31 as if you could somehow twist His meaning in favor of butchering unborn infants."



Source: The Washington Stand

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

It's Been a Weary Season, no doubt.



Luke Allen, Pastor,
Covenant Church,
Bossier City, LA

Many churches are struggling. Several of my friends are hurting and it seems like our country has lost its mind at times. I was talking with a dear friend last week who asked a question that really got me thinking...

Why does church planting or replanting work?

My attempt to answer that follows. My prayer is no matter what ministry context you are serving in, some of the principles could be adapted and used to further God's kingdom.

It clarifies the vision. Maybe you've heard the phrase, "vision leaks." It's true. People just forget. I get it; I can hardly remember what I preached last week, much less a well-articulated vision. We have a great benefit. Jesus makes the vision pretty clear with the great commission.

It brings momentum. Momentum is a funny thing. It can be lost so quickly. The Apostle Paul reminded the Romans, "Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord." That sounds a lot like momentum to me. Zeal. Fervor. Planting capitalizes on new momentum. New plans and strategies and people all coming together to start something. To grow something. Maybe you aren't planting a new work, but you can increase the momentum for sure. A few things you might try... celebrating a church anniversary, helping plant a church, baptism, a grand opening, and so many more.

It makes us dependent on the supernatural. I've been in church my entire life. My dad pastored several churches. I have served in at least five different churches before planting Covenant. One thing I've found is true; it's so easy to drift toward what we can accomplish through our own strength and strategy and ignore what only God might do. When you start a new work, you are forced to depend on what only God can do. Friends, when we admit our neediness and weakness, God steps in and does the work. It is incredible.

If you would like to talk more about planting or replanting, I'd love to help.

Luke Allen has been the founding pastor of Covenant Church, Bossier City, since 2010. Luke and his wife, Ashley, have 3 children.