



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

August 2026

From Your Director of Missions (D.O.M.):

Summer School Break is almost over. Time certainly has passed by quickly for our students. Soon the Youth and Children activities will begin and there will be a time of excitement as everyone gets reacquainted after the summer break. I want to thank all of you that invest time and love into the children and youth. They certainly need all of the prayers and guidance that we can give them. Please lift up our children, youth and all of our parents in prayer. They all face so many challenges in our world today.

It is also time to prepare for the new church year. Nominating committees will be busy seeking folks to serve in the various areas of the church. Please pray and let the Lord lead you in deciding where He has planned for you to serve within His Church. Let the nominating committee know where you are willing to serve. It will assist them in completing their task and make their job much easier.

As we begin a new church year, I want to encourage each of you to be involved in the ministries of your church and our association. Collectively, we can make a difference in our area for the Lord. As we support one another, we can share resources and people to complete the task that lies ahead. Let us make this the greatest year for our Lord and His Kingdom.

Finally, pray for one another. Pray for wisdom, discernment and boldness so that our Lord will be blessed as we portray Christ to all people within our mission field of Richland Parish. I pray our Lord's greatest blessings upon all of you.

We have a new mailing address. Our new address is as follows:

Richland Baptist Association
PO Box 146
Delhi, LA 71232.

My cell number is also the office number: (318) 355-4114.

If there is anything that we can do for you or your church family, please reach out to us.

Yours in Christ,

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the month of August 2026

- Aug 02: Dry Bones Men’s Conference @ North Monroe Baptist Church
- Aug 02: Send Relief Sunday
- Aug 08: REGROUP, North @ Temple Baptist Ruston
- Aug 09: Serve Sunday
- Aug 13: Pastor’s Conference @ Big John’s Rayville 11AM
- Aug 21-22: Serve Tour Monroe, LA
- Aug 23: Global Hunger Sunday

Upcoming Events for the month of September 2026

- Sep 07: Labor Day (office will be closed)
- Sep 10: Pastors’ Conference 11AM @ Big John’s
- Sep 11-12: SURVIVOR CAMP, Acadian Baptist Center
- Sep 11-13: CHAMPIONS’ CAMP, Tall Timbers
- Sep 13: Children’s Baptism Sunday
- Sep 15: Association Budget and Nominating Committee Mtg
- Sep 19: Children’s Mission Day
- Sep 27: Caring Well Sunday

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Please join me in praying for our sister churches that are without a pastor. Also pray for those with other needs. If you know of someone that would serve in any of these capacities, please contact me.

Pastor: Bethel
Lone Cherry

.....

**If you have a need in your church, please let us know and we will post it in the Monthly Newsletter.*

Something to Think About...

My wife and I recently did some cleaning and rearranging of our office spaces. The interesting things you find when going through all the nooks, crannies, and slots within desks and cabinets are almost like going on a treasure hunt. You find things you have probably been looking for seems like forever (maybe you even already bought a new one of whatever it is). On the other hand, we find things that though we remember thinking them indispensable at the time of acquisition, we come to find out they really weren't all that necessary.

A similar thought comes to mind this time of year as churches start to do nominating committee work and pull up the previous church year's data for the ACP (Annual Church Profile). The younger ages potentially promote into other bible study divisions or classes. In general, we gear up for the influx of people back from vacations and breaks to dive into the school year and the approaching holiday season.

I wonder how much we treat our church as an organization like that cluttered workspace. We stuff people into the nooks, crannies and slots of the organizational chart because "we need a name here" and "this committee doesn't have enough people" and "oh, brother/sister so-and-so always does that". It mirrors finding three of the same tools you forgot you already owned - multiple ministries overlapping doing the same work. Perhaps you discover something you thought indispensable that hasn't really disciplined anyone or advanced the Great Commission.

The other temptation when the organizing gets overwhelming is fatigue - just stuffing people in to fill slots. That's the equivalent of shoving everything back where you found it to get it out of the way. Out of sight, out of mind. A problem for someone else later.

If the church is the body of Christ, He doesn't do things that way. Jesus is not interested in just filling a slot. He wants to facilitate a saint. By that I mean empowering someone to do a needed work in a timely way, for their edification and the edification of those they serve, bringing honor and glory to God as a reasonable act of worship.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." **1 Peter 4:10**

Are we "facilitating the saints" or just "filling the slots"?

- Jonathan C. Young

Richland Baptist Association

(318) 303-7626

102 Horn Rd,

Rayville, LA 71269, USA

