



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

October 2023

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

Fall is here! Cooler weather is coming along with the changing of the colors of God's trees and foliage.

Our Simultaneous Revival will be conducted from Monday October 2, 2023 through Thursday October 5, 2023. The services are for every church within our association each night. You are encouraged to attend each night and to bring someone with you. The churches and dates of the revival are in the newsletter in the Upcoming Events section.

Sunday, October 15, 2023 at 5:30 PM at the Richland Arts Center in Rayville, Richland Baptist Association and Mangham Baptist Church are hosting "The Man Church " Conference. Our speakers will be Rick Burgess and Rich Wingo. There is no cost for the event. We want to invite all of the men within our association, your friends and other churches to join us. Men please invite as many men as you can to join us. You Will Be Blessed!

The month of October offers an excellent opportunity to reach out to your communities by hosting Fall Festivals. What a wonderful way to reach families with the Gospel and to offer an alternative to halloween festivities.

This month has been set aside to collect an offering for our Richland Baptist Encampment. I encourage each church to pray about supporting our encampment and receive an offering to assist in funding the cost of operation incurred each month. Presently the monthly cost of operations is \$3,000: however, the encampment only receives a little more than \$1,000 per month. At this rate, the encampment cannot continue to support the operations cost. The cabins and other utility needs have been upgraded and it is now ready to be utilized. Pray about not only supporting the encampment financially but also supporting it by utilizing the facilities. Offerings will be received the entire month. Make checks payable to Richland Baptist Encampment and send them directly there.

Thank you for the joy and privilege of being your Director of Missions,

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of October 2023

- Oct 01: Co-operative Program Sunday
- Oct 02: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: First Delhi
Southern Churches: Mangham
- Oct 03: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: First Rayville
Southern Churches: Mangham
- Oct 04: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: Woodlawn
Southern Churches: Cedar
- Oct 05: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: Eastside
Southern Churches: Cedar

Note: Pastors or Deacons of churches without pastors, please make certain that your church family understands that this is for all churches every night.

- Oct 06-07: Camp O Ree at Camp Harris
- Oct 13-14: Minister's Wives Retreat @ Tall Timbers
- Oct 15: Man Church Conference @ Rayville Art Center 5:30 PM
- Oct 19-21: Richland Women's Retreat @ Seeker Springs
- Oct 22: Pray for Association Missions Sunday
- Oct 26-28: Richland Men's Retreat @ Seeker Springs
- Oct 29: Student Baptism Sunday
- Oct 1 - 31: Richland Baptist Encampment Offering
(Make checks out to the encampment and send directly to them)

Upcoming Events for the Month of November 2023

- Nov 05: Homecoming at Bethlehem Baptist Church.
Brother Keith Stephens and the church family invites everyone to join them. The service starts at 10 with music and Brother David Shirley will bring the Annual Homecoming Message. A Pot-Luck lunch will be shared after the morning Worship Service. If you can not attend the Worship Service because of obligation to your own church, you are invited to share the pot-luck meal with them.
- Nov 05: Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church
- Nov 07: Encampment Meeting @ 6:30 PM
- Nov 09: Pastor and Staff Conference @ Big John's Rayville At 11AM
- Nov 11: Vacation Bible School Preview @ Baptist Building Alexandria
- Nov 12: Widow and Orphan Sunday
- Nov. 13-14: LBC Annual Convention @ Franklin Street Baptist New Orleans
- Nov. 19-20: YEC @ Rapides Coliseum Alexandria
- Nov. 23: Happy Thanksgiving!!

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor: Beouf River Baptist
Bethel Baptist
First Baptist Rayville
Lone Cherry Baptist
New Light Baptist
Newton Baptist

Youth Minister: Alto Baptist
First Baptist Delhi
Mangham Baptist

**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...

“As we step into the vibrant month of October, our community is buzzing with anticipation and excitement for the upcoming revival and fall festivals. These events mark an opportunity for us to come together in worship, reflection, and outreach. Our revival promises to be a spiritually rejuvenating experience, a time to renew our commitment to our faith and deepen our relationship with God. Simultaneously, our fall festivals, filled with joyous gatherings and fellowship, offer a wonderful chance to reach out to our neighbors and extend the warm embrace of our faith to those who may be seeking solace and community in these challenging times. Let us come together, united in purpose, to make these events a resounding success, as we continue to shine God's light in our beloved Richland community.”

What you just read above was quoted from the ChatGPT version 3.5 A.I. (artificial intelligence) based chatbot using the following prompts:

paragraph richland baptist association october newsletter revival fall festivals outreach

I recently was at a conference where the keynote speaker was talking about this technology that is coming on like gangbusters nowadays. In the recent Indiana Jones movie in theaters recently, A.I. technology was used to “deep fake” some footage of a younger Harrison Ford for a scene set in the past at the outset of the film.

As the speaker was talking, I began to think how this trend isn't even on the radar of most of our thousands upon thousands of smaller churches scattered throughout our world. I was thinking how easy it would be for a lot of the elements of ministry from Bible study preparation to even sermon preparation to be generated in the name of convenience without the due diligence and discipline of meditation, slowing, and focusing on the Word of God. This is nothing new as those disciplines within the life of a believer have been under attack for some time. However, if we don't think through the ramifications and prepare ourselves, this could be the spiritual warfare equivalent of the popularization of the machine gun during World War I. Lest you think scripture doesn't have anything to say on this topic:

For though they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless minds were darkened.

-Romans 1:21

“Oh, be careful little eyes what you see... Oh be careful little eyes what you see...”

- Jonathan Young

Richland Baptist Association

(318) 303-7626
102 Horn Rd,
Rayville, LA 71269, USA

