



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

November 2021

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

What an exciting month lies ahead. The month of Homecomings and Thanksgiving. As many of you celebrate your Annual Homecoming Service, I pray that it will be a wonderful day for your church family and the many friends and family members that will come back home to celebrate with you.

Thanksgiving is the day set aside each year for our citizens to celebrate a time of deep gratitude and recognition of the many blessings that our Lord has bestowed on us as a country and individuals. My request is that this not be the only day that we give thanks to our Heavenly Father and Lord Jesus for their love and blessings. As you gather around the table with your family, take time to thank God for the many blessings of life and family that He has given you.

There are several upcoming events and I ask that you please add them to your calendar. Make plans to attend as many of them as possible whether they are for your local church or our association.

Due to COVID restrictions not allowing many churches to organize choirs for their Christmas Cantatas, this year we will do the Richland Baptist Association's Christmas Gathering a little differently. If your choir has music already prepared to present or if there is any group or individual that would like to sing a special Christmas song, please contact Brother Raymond Perrin, our Associational Music Minister, so that he can schedule them on the program. Otherwise, we will come together as churches and sing Christmas Carols and the sharing of the Christmas Story from scripture. Please place this event on your calendars. It will be held on Sunday December 5, 2021 at 6PM. Start Baptist has graciously offered to host the event. Thank you Brother Jeff and the family of Start Baptist! Please make every effort to attend this event, You will be blessed!

You are one of the Greatest Gifts that our Lord has given me. What an honor and privilege it is to be your Director of Missions. I am so blessed to be your servant.

Yours in Christ,

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of November

- November 07: Orphans and Widows Sunday
Newton Baptist Homecoming 10AM
Lone Cherry Baptist Homecoming 10AM
- November 08: Disaster Relief Appreciation Day
- November 09: Pastor's Lunch 11AM (Big John's)
- November 11: Veteran's Day
- November 13: Fall VBS Preview (Tall Timbers)
Newton Baptist Gospel Singing Fundraiser 5-9PM @ Richland Learning Center, Delhi (Gospel Music, Food, Baked Goods, Auction and More)
- November 14: Homecoming Eastside Baptist 10AM
- November 15: LBC Pastor's Conference (North Monroe Baptist Church)
- November 16: LBC Annual Meeting (North Monroe Baptist Church)
- November 21-22: Youth Evangelism Conference (Rapides Coliseum Alexandria)
- November 25: Thanksgiving Day
- November 28: Lottie Moon Week of Prayer through December 5, 2021
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Upcoming Events for the Month of December

- December 03: Pastor and Wives Christmas Party 6PM (Eastside Baptist)
- December 05: Associational Christmas Gathering of the Churches 6PM (Start Baptist Church)
- December 13: Executive Board Meeting 10 AM (Eastside Baptist/ Pastor's Lunch 11AM @ Big John's)
- December 25: Christmas Day

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor: Calvary Baptist Church
Cedar Baptist Church
Newton Baptist Church

Youth Minister: First Baptist Archibald

**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...

Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest."

- **Matthew 9:35-38**

"...the workers are few."

Brothers and sisters, how many of us have felt the weight of that phrase in recent days. We feel it in the adjustments to our schedules and daily lives. Having to go through a drive-thru when you really just want to sit and stop and eat and not have to deal with a bunch of trash in your vehicle. When the stark reality comes to you on how much service your life had gotten used to and the "cold shower" shock of that kind of service being ripped away, it is a grief that is both external(what my life has lost!) and internal(what have I become?).

Then there's the service we do receive today. It seems the world at large has shifted in a philosophy of service from "the customer is always right" to "the customer is an annoyance to my otherwise collection of a paycheck".

I can hear you thinking, "but Jesus was talking about Kingdom work of reaching people with the gospel and ministering to their needs".

You're right! He sure was. Has our philosophy of service turned inward to the sheep that should have long been fellow under-shepherds or at least ranch-hands by now? Are we still in the business of existing for those that are not yet here?

Richland Baptist Association

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

