



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

July 2022

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

We are receiving wonderful reports from our churches, VBS and summer camps. Praise God! Several children have accepted Christ as their Savior and others have been drawn closer to him. Thank all of you for making a difference in God's Kingdom and the lives of the children and youth of our association of churches. Please continue to pray for those that have not yet held their VBS or gone to their camps. God is doing a great work in our association and it is because of His children sharing the GOOD NEWS with others.

Recently God answered the prayers of His children, some from fifty (50) years ago, when the Supreme Court overturned Roe vs Wade. This has given us a great opportunity of ministry to women and children. Let us work together to reach them in love and offer them the Hope of Christ. Together we can plan ministries to provide services and material needs of the mothers and the children. I am excited that we have this opportunity to be Christ to another group of people that will need to see us witness to them by being the hands, feet and heart of Jesus.

On Sunday the 10th of July at 2PM at Eastside Baptist in Rayville we will conduct a Chainsaw Ministry Training. You must complete the training to be able to work on site of any project that the team accepts to complete. Men and women can participate in this worthwhile ministry. I encourage you to pray and seek God's Leadership in your decision to participate. We would love to have you join us. You will be blessed just as much, if not more, than those that you minister to in their time of need.

Thank you for allowing me the joy and privilege to serve you. You have blessed me beyond measure.

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of July

July	03:	Religious Liberty Sunday
July	04:	Independence Day
July	19:	Chainsaw Training 2PM @ Eastside Rayville
July	12:	Pastor's Conference 11AM @ Big John's Rayville
July	14:	Board of Directors, Baptist Assembly (Encampment) 6PM @ Eastside

*The following churches and dates of Vacation Bible Schools:

First Baptist Archibald	July 11-15	9AM - Noon
Woodlawn	July 11-14	8:30AM - 11AM
Newton	July 11-15	8:30AM - 11AM
Start Baptist	July 18-22	8AM - Noon

Upcoming Events for the Month of August

August	01:	Annual Church Profile Reporting Begins
August	07:	Send Relief Sunday
August	09:	Pastor's Conference and Lunch 11AM @Big John's Rayville
August	14:	SBC Serve Sunday
August	15:	Digital Regroup Conferences (on line)
August	16:	Digital Regroup Conferences (on line)
August	28:	Global Hunger Sunday

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor:	Calvary Baptist Church First Baptist Archibald Newton Baptist Church
Youth Minister:	First Baptist Archibald First Baptist Delhi
Pianist (Volunteer):	Zebedee Baptist Church

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

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Something to Think About...

Ever since the couple of landmark Supreme Court decisions in recent days, I have noticed the more “fishin’ hole” side of my social media (you know those that you are friends or acquainted with for the purposes of long-term “fishing for men”) has started to sound a lot like **Matthew 11:16-19**:

“To what should I compare this generation? It’s like children sitting in the marketplaces who call out to other children:

*We played the flute for you,
but you didn’t dance;
we sang a lament,
but you didn’t mourn!*

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon!’ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

There is a lot of anger and rage like that of a pouting child that is throwing a temper tantrum because things aren’t going their way. At first, I started to get upset when I would see folks call those that had fought so hard under the banners of Pro-Life and the Sanctity of Human Life instead as only “Pro-Birth”. I saw where such name-calling was unjustified because Christian believers make up the lion’s share of those that engage in crisis pregnancy ministry and feel called to the loving ministry of adoption at nearly twice the rate of the population that doesn’t consider themselves Christian.

However, I had to stop myself and take a step back and realize that these were the angry rantings of those very children as Jesus referred to in the aforementioned passage. We, as believers, are not dancing to their tune. We are not advocating what they advocate. We are not saddened for the same reasons about our current world.

So what’s a Christian to do as the rants and name calling get more vile and vehement? (I even saw someone refer to the moral turn our Supreme Court seems to have taken as being the oncoming of the “Y’all Qaeda” while referencing the turn of Iran to a theocratic Muslim state during their Islamic Revolution of the 1970s.) The scriptures are not silent on such a plight:

A gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh word stirs up wrath.

-Proverbs 15:1

“You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

-Matthew 5:11-12

Richland Baptist Association

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