



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

November 2022

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

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, let us pause and give thanks to God for His GOODNESS, GRACE and MERCY! We have a GOOD, GOOD FATHER! HE loves us more than we deserve. Let me encourage you to take the time to reflect upon all of the things that you should say thank you to our Lord for. As your reflection will most undoubtedly reveal, you are blessed beyond measure.

Our nation was blessed when the Supreme Court overturned Roe v Wade. However, it opened the door for a wonderful ministry to ladies and their unborn children and the ones they have given birth to. Our Louisiana Baptist Children's Home Director, Dr. Perry Hancock, has requested that each association establish a ministry role of an Adoption/Foster Care representative. If there is anyone that is interested in discovering what this position's responsibilities entail and would like to serve as our coordinator, please contact me directly.

There are a couple of dates that I want to highlight: November 8, 2022 is Election Day. Please vote as we have an opportunity to elect several people to important positions within our local, state and federal governments. November 11, 2022 is Veterans' Day. This is the day that we thank all of our Veterans that served our country to keep us free. Please take the time to thank those that served in our military. Please check out the calendars listed in the newsletter each month.

Eastside Baptist Church is organizing a "CAROLS AT THE CROSS" event to be held on December 17, 2022 between 6PM to 8 PM. It will be held at the Cross in the curve of Pecan and Horn Road, Rayville. If you would like to assist in sponsoring this event, please contact Brother Chris Crawford.

If I was asked what I was thankful for, it would be every pastor, pastor's wife and church family that makes up the Richland Baptist Association. Thank you for your love and support of our ministry and mission as we work together collectively in our Lord's Kingdom.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO YOU ALL!

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of November

- Nov 06: Daylight Savings Time Begins
Day of Prayer for Persecuted Church
- Nov 08: Election Day: Please Vote
- Nov 11: Veterans Day : Thank you to all of our Veterans
- Nov 13: Widows and Orphans Sunday
West New Home Homecoming @ 10:00 AM
- Nov 14: LBC Pastors' Conference
- Nov 15: LBC Annual Meeting @ Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria
- Nov 21-22: Youth Evangelism Conference @ Rapides Coliseum, Alexandria
- Nov 24: Thanksgiving Day Happy Thanksgiving
- Nov 27: West New Home host "Southern Plainsmen Quartet"
Bring a covered dish. 11:00 AM

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 23-25

Upcoming Events for the Month of December

- Dec 02: Pastors, Wives and Staff Christmas Party @ Eastside 6PM
Please RSVP so we can make certain of Food Preparation.
- Dec 04: Start Community Christmas Festival 5-7PM
- Dec 04-11: Week of Prayer Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- Dec 17: Carols at the Cross 6-8 PM. Cross by I-20 Rayville
- Dec 25: Christmas Day Merry Christmas!

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor: Calvary Baptist Church
First Baptist Archibald
Newton Baptist

Youth Minister: Alto Baptist
First Baptist Archibald
First Baptist Delhi

Pianist: Cedar Baptist Church
Zebedee Baptist (Volunteer)

**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...

September hits us like a whirlwind with school getting into full acceleration and October doesn't give us much of a rest break if any. With activities as various as homecomings, trunk or treats, and fall fests, we can really start to feel the weight of stress "Fall" down on us like the weight of so many leaves falling from the trees. While we anticipate the Kodak moments or Norman Rockwell picturesque holiday scenes that will come in the next couple of months, there is a lot of work that happens before and behind the scenes to make it happen. Sometimes, despite our best laid plans, hopes and dreams, it doesn't happen. We don't experience "the moment" or "the result" that we were working toward. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was no stranger to this as we see recorded in **Matthew 13:54-58**, **Mark 6:1-5**, and **Luke 4:16-30** (John's gospel didn't record a corresponding account of this moment... I figure it was either heartbreaking to reflect back on, or much like the account of Mary and Martha he was soaking in every moment with Jesus too much to get bogged down into the details and busyness of preparation).

The gist of those three accounts is that Jesus "could do no/few mighty works" to the extent that Jesus makes that famous turn of phrase "A prophet is not without honor, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house." We know that with God all things are possible, so it is curious why Jesus chose to be limited in this way and at this time. Despite all of our formulas, church growth strategies, and grand efforts, at times it just doesn't happen. Low attendance on a high attendance day, half a handful of people come to pray at the altar during a week-long revival, or the spark of the flame of the gift of God doesn't even start to kindle before the Wet Blanket Committee comes in to snuff it out.

Jesus sees, He knows, and He understands. "[There was] a great and powerful wind After the wind there was an earthquake After the earthquake came a fire And after the fire came a gentle whisper." Be mindful of the still small voice in the midst of the hurricane of activity approaching.

Richland Baptist Association

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