



# Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

April 2025

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

He's Alive! He's Alive! Praise the Lord!

Resurrection Sunday is coming! What a wonderful and holy month we will celebrate. The Risen King and Lord of Lords is alive and sitting at the right hand of His Father and our Father. One day He is going to hear His Father tell Him to go get His children. However, until that time comes, we are to be Jesus Christ to the world. Remember that we serve a risen Lord and not a dead one. Therefore, His body, (His church), is to be alive and not dead.

What a wonderful opportunity we as His body have to minister to an enormous amount of new people to our area. Our Lord has placed the Meta facility in our backyard to bless us and give us the opportunity to share His love to the world. As I told our pastors, the Lord commanded us to go into the world. He has blessed us in that He is sending the world to us. We are not only going to have the opportunity to minister to individuals but people groups as well. Brothers and sisters, we have the great privilege to take the gospel that our Lord has given us to add souls to His kingdom and make an eternal impact on the lives of many people. I want to encourage you to embrace the gift that our Lord has given us.

We will begin a ministry of feeding supper to the work crew at the Meta facility on the first Monday of each month. We presently have eight (8) teams scheduled to share in the ministry. If you and your church are unable to participate for any reason, please be our prayer warriors for those that serve. Everyone of us can have a part in the ministry. I want to thank each church or group for serving in this special ministry.

As we celebrate Easter, may we reflect on the gift of a great salvation that our father provided for us. Our Lord left His home in glory to become man, walk among us, show us the Father, die for us and to rise again to prove that He truly was God that took on flesh.

He fulfilled the promise of everlasting life described in John 3:16. Praise God His Word is faithful that if we believe in His Son that we will inherit eternal life. The Promise Maker keeps His promises.

May each of you experience the fullness of the Lord on Resurrection Sunday.

As always, what a privilege it is to serve you.

Johnny

Please place our upcoming senior saint revival on your calendar:

**Monday, April 28: First Rayville**

**Tuesday, April 29: First Delhi**

**Wednesday, April 30: First Archibald**

We will start our worship service each morning at 10:30 am

Our sheriff and his staff will provide lunch for us each day. If you see the sheriff or any of his staff, tell them thank you for their watchcare over us and all that they do for us. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful christian sheriff, chief deputy and staff.

## Upcoming Events for the month of April 2025

- Apr. 04-05: RA Congress @ Tall Timbers
- Apr. 06: District Bible Drill
- Apr. 11-12: Disaster Relief Training @ Temple Baptist Ruston, LA
- Apr. 14: Meta Ministry Meeting @ 6:30PM
- Apr. 17: Pastor's Conference @ Big John's Rayville 11AM
- Apr. 18: Good Friday
- Apr. 20: Resurrection Sunday
- Apr. 22: State Bible Drill @ Temple Baptist Ruston, LA
- Apr. 28-30 Senior Saint Revival

## Upcoming Events for the month of May 2025

- May 01: National Day Of Prayer
- May 05: First Baptist Rayville, Meta Ministry
- May 08: Pastors' Conference @ Big John's Rayville
- May 11: Mothers' Day
- May 26: Memorial Day

[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: Lone Cherry  
West New Home

Part-Time Youth Minister: First Baptist Archibald

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*\*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...

Many times as spring springs and the pollen comes down as the snow did upon our northerly neighbors in the months prior, our thoughts turn to new life and the Resurrection. To be sure, the Resurrection is why we can sing songs like Because He Lives and the more recent All My Hope or Living Hope. While we proclaim Jesus as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords; the Prince of Peace; the Resurrection and the Life; the Way, the Truth, and the Life; the Son of Man; and the Lamb of God, we sometimes overlook another title of Jesus that is pertinent to this time of celebrating life and new birth. Jesus Christ is also referred to as the Living Word. The first chapter of John connects the dots for us as Jesus being the Living Word of God that was present before and at the foundation of creation.

Peter makes the connection for us of how that Living Word connects to our being born again with the new birth to life in the Spirit in **1 Peter 1:23**

*“since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;”*

Jesus as He walked and lived was the fulfillment and embodiment of the Law and the Prophets. He is the preeminent theme and thread that ties all of scripture together. This side of the Resurrection, we are not only blessed with near instant access to the Bible through the wonder and blessing of technologies that God has provided discoverers and inventors to provide but also and in no way secondary the presence and person of the Holy Spirit to “illuminate” this Living Word through the physical Bible.

We are told that this Living Word of God is both a weapon (the Sword of the Spirit) and a precision scalpel (**Hebrews 4:12**) that can divide soul and spirit, joint and marrow, or thoughts from intentions of the heart. That’s pretty razor sharp if you ask me. But in the very next verse (**Heb. 4:13**), it immediately refers to a personal “His sight” and “the eyes of Him to whom we must give account”. So Hebrews is not talking about just some physical print of the Bible but the living interaction of the Living Word (Jesus) being illuminated through the pages of that physical book via the Holy Spirit.

Two last connected thoughts here from **Jeremiah 20:9** and **23:29**. Jeremiah says in the first that trying to resist speaking of God or in His Name is like the worst case of heartburn you ever did feel. The Lord declares in a later response with the rhetorical question of His Word being like fire and like a hammer that breaks rock in pieces. If we are not faithful to proclaim and share that Word aren’t we told something about the rocks (In fact, I think that is made reference to in **Luke 19:40**).

- Jonathan C. Young

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