



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

March 2022

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

Praise God! Spring will soon be here. I don't mind the cold weather; however Spring is my favorite season of the year. God blesses us as we see His creation become alive again with renewed vigor and beauty. He reminds us of His love for us and all of nature. We serve an AWESOME GOD!

I am really excited about our special associational event that is coming up. Our Senior Saint Revival will be this month. My prayer is that you are as excited about coming together as a group of Special Saints to worship our Lord and to enjoy fellowship with each other as I am of seeing you.. Please invite your friends, especially the unchurched, to attend with you. Brother Tim Post will bless you as he brings the worship songs and the message each day. If you enjoy eating good fried fish, then you are in for a special treat as Sheriff Gilley and his staff will fry fish and provide all of the extra trimmings to go along with them each day. If you see our sheriff, let him know how much you appreciate him and his staff. We are blessed to have a Christian Sheriff.

This is also the time of year when churches are getting ready for Vacation Bible School. Mrs. Robbin Albritton from Dunn Baptist Church has blessed our association by volunteering to be our Vacation Bible School Director. On Sunday March 27, 2022 at 2PM at Dunn Baptist Church, she and David Anderson from the Louisiana Baptists will host a VBS Preview. Everyone that works in VBS at your churches are encouraged to attend. I want to thank Mrs. Albritton for her willingness to serve our Lord and our association. There are several things that are coming up. Please make sure to look at the calendar of events. Especially set aside time for the Senior Adult Revival March 21-23.

As you can see, there are several things going on in our association this month. With all that is going on, please let us not forget about our Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. This offering is used to support our missionaries within our state and North America. We can't all go on a mission field but we can help support and send those who are called out by Christ to do so.

You are my richest blessing in ministry. I love you all!

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of March

- March 05: KIDMIN EXPO (VBS Preview @ First Baptist Haughton)
- March 06-13: Week of Prayer for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- March 10: Pastor's Conference 11AM @ Big John's
- March 18-19: Embrace Women's Conference, First Lafayette
- March 21-23: Senior Saint Revival 10:30 AM: FOR ALL SENIOR ADULTS
Evangelist: Tim Post
Monday: Dunn Baptist Church
Tuesday: First Baptist Rayville
Wednesday: Mangham Baptist Church

Lunch will be provided each day by our Sheriff and his staff. They have graciously agreed to serve fried fish and all of the trimmings each day. If you see Sheriff Gilley, let him know how much you appreciate him and his staff. They are a blessing to us all.

- March 27: VBS Preview from Lifeway at Dunn Baptist Church at 2PM.
This is for all people who want to attend.
- March 30-31: Rural to Regional Conference, Cypress Baptist Church Benton

Upcoming Events for the Month of April

- April 01-02: KWOW (Kid's Weekend of Worship) Tall Timbers,
(Louisianabaptists.org/KWOW)
- April 03: Cooperative Program Sunday
- April 08-09: RA Congress, Tall Timbers
- April 10: Personal Evangelism Day
- April 14: Maundy Thursday
- April 15: Good Friday
- April 17: Easter Sunday
- April 24: Baptism Sunday
- April 27: Administrative Professionals Day

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor: Calvary Baptist Church
Cedar Baptist Church
Newton Baptist Church

Youth Minister: First Baptist Archibald
First Baptist Delhi

**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...

“This is the true story of ... strangers picked to live in a house, [and] work together ... – to find out what happens when people stop being polite and start getting real.”

-abridged intro narration from MTV's The Real World 1992-2017

Those were the opening words to the longest-running program in MTV history, one of the longest-running reality series in history, and a series that is credited with launching the modern reality TV genre. This is by no means an endorsement as I do not in any way encourage consumption of this entertainment “junk food”. However, one can't help but wonder as restrictions get loosened and pockets of life get back to a semblance of normal if the people that make up our churches, communities, and world have not taken on some of that last part of the intro lines “what happens when people stop being polite and start getting real” ?

With the shortened fuses of most at an all time low and the calcified encrusted hearts of most with a love grown rather cold, there is concern about how we choose to interact and engage with one another from day to day.

“If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”

-1 John 1:6-7 (ESV)

Our default unregenerate “reality” or “being real” is that we are “*the sexually immoral, ... idolaters, ... adulterers, ... practic[ioners of] homosexuality, ... thieves, ... the greedy, ... drunkards, ... revilers, ... swindlers*” (1 Cor. 9-11). When that is where we find ourselves defaulting to after unloading from the stress of recent days, it might be time for a spiritual check-up. The passage in first John refers to “walk[ing] in darkness”. It is one thing to walk and occasionally have a shadow cross or obscure your path. It is another thing entirely to choose to walk in the concealment of shadow by choice or find your path through dark alleyways.

When it comes down to it, we could all do with a little more pre-pandemic politeness motivated out of a grateful heart for Christ's loving sacrifice as we approach the lead up to Resurrection Sunday.

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