



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

September 2026

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

Summer ends and Fall begins this month. I always enjoy the changing of the season from Summer to Fall. Our Lord really displays His beauty in creation as the trees begin to change from their green leaves to the beautiful leaves of Fall. Please take time to enjoy the beauty of our Lord's creation and thank Him for His never changing love and watch care over us.

As the season changes, so we have changed with it. Our Richland Baptist Association is no longer held in the month of September but will be held on **Monday October 19, 2026 at First Baptist Rayville**. We will share a meal at 5:30pm and begin our meeting at 6:10pm. We will do something different this year. Just as our SBC Convention and our LBC Convention do, we are asking that each church send messengers to the annual meeting. Everyone is encouraged to attend but the messengers will be the church representatives that will vote on business matters concerning the association. Please begin now to announce the Richland Baptist Association Annual Meeting. This meeting we will reach a wonderful milestone as this is our 75th annual meeting. Make plans now to join us at First Baptist Church Rayville for an evening of fellowship and worship.

I placed our new mailing address and phone number in last month's newsletter; however, there are still churches that have not made the correction. We no longer have a Post Office Box in Rayville. If you send any correspondence to that address, we will not receive it. Please make note of the new address and phone number as it is listed below:

Richland Baptist Association
PO Box 146
Delhi, LA 71232.

My cell number is also the office number: (318) 355-4114.

As always, I love and appreciate each of you and thank you for the privilege of being your Director of Missions.

If there is anything that we can do for you or your church family, please reach out to us.

Yours in Christ,

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the month of September 2026

Sep 07:	Labor Day (office will be closed)
Sep 10:	Pastors' Conference 11AM @ Big John's
Sep 11-12:	SURVIVOR CAMP, Acadian Baptist Center
Sep 11-13:	CHAMPIONS' CAMP, Tall Timbers
Sep 13:	Children's Baptism Sunday
Sep 15:	Association Budget and Nominating Committee Mtg
Sep 19:	Children's Mission Day
Sep 27:	Caring Well Sunday

Upcoming Events for the month of October 2026

Oct 04:	Cooperative Program Sunday
Oct 08:	Pastors Conference @ Big John's 11am
Oct 09-10:	Ministers' Wives Retreat @ Tall Timbers
Oct 18:	Day of Prayer for Association Missions
Oct 19:	75th Richland Baptist Association Annual Meeting
Oct 25:	Student Baptism Sunday

[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: Bethel
Lone Cherry

**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 going out a bit later than I intended but as I approach the big 5-0 this first September weekend, my thoughts have been a little scattered lately. Of course, in the Old Testament, the 50th year was a big deal.

"And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you..." **Leviticus 25:10**

Those of you that are Old Testament scholars know that three things happened during a Jubilee: debts were forgiven; slaves were freed; and land returned back to its original family. In a sense, everything broken, in bondage, or scattered was to be restored.

We also know that Israel never really kept this the way God intended. Too many with too much to lose in terms of vested interests to obey what was to be one of the more invigorating commands of God. Imagine getting a fresh clean slate after 5 decades.

In Luke 4:17-21, Jesus takes this very concept and declares that He is the fulfillment of it. He forgives the debts, frees the enslaved, and returns territory that belongs to Someone else back to Him –He is reclaiming God's territory. In other words it was never about a year on the calendar, but about a Person who literally reset the calendar.

However, we have another "jubilee" of note as well. Our association reaches its 75th anniversary. I remember when I was a cub scout, we had the 75th anniversary of scouting and they called it a "Diamond Jubilee"! This year will be our association of churches' "Diamond Jubilee" as well. Diamonds are a thing of beauty and value formed under intense pressure.

On the Mohs Hardness Scale, diamond sets the hardest end of the scale. This should stand as a reminder to us that while it is a great thing to celebrate the beauty of the past victories we have had as an association, we need to be careful about what we allow to be hardened in the process. Vance Havner said it this way:

"A preacher should have the mind of a scholar, the heart of a child and the hide of a rhinoceros. His biggest problem is how to toughen his hide without hardening his heart."

Diamonds also reflect light and that is a major facet of their beauty.

So as we approach this "Diamond Jubilee" on October 19th at First Baptist Rayville, let us praise and thank God for where He has brought us thus far, and remember to continue to live to reflect the clear-making, chain-breaking, claim-staking Jubilee — our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- Jonathan C. Young

Richland Baptist Association

(318) 355-4114
P.O. Box 146
Delhi, LA 71232

