



# Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

March 2025

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

Winter is almost over! Spring is coming! Spring is my favorite time of year. We see the flowers and trees waking from a long winter nap, young animals and birds are being born and God's creation is showing all of the beauty that He had intended from the beginning. Always remember that you are God's greatest creation. You and I are the only ones of God's creation that He created to have a personal daughter or son relationship. My greatest prayer is that each of you have that personal relationship with Him that cost Him and His Son Jesus so much. If you do not, I pray that you will receive the Greatest Gift of All, Salvation through the Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We have changed our plans for our Senior Saint Revival. The new dates will be Monday April 28, 2025 through Wednesday April 30, 2025. Please begin now praying for the revival. There will be more forthcoming information as we finalize all of the logistics. This is always such a blessing for our Senior Saints from all of our churches.

I encourage you to look at the calendared events each month. Ladies, there is a wonderful, Holy Spirit filled day planned for you on Friday March 28, 2025 and Saturday March 29, 2025 at First Baptist Haughton. It is the Embrace Women's Conference and it will bless all of you tremendously. I encourage you to get a group from your church and spend some time together worshipping our Lord. You must make reservations ahead of time so they will know how many ladies to expect. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Louisiana Baptists at (318) 445-0055 or you may contact me at (318) 355-4114.

As always, I am grateful to be your servant and Director of Missions.

Yours in Christ,

Johnny

## Upcoming Events for the month of March 2025

- Mar. 02-09: Week of Prayer Annie Armstrong Offering
- Mar. 03: META Ministry Meeting @ Woodlawn 6:30PM
- Mar. 06: Kid's Min Expo @ FBC Pineville
- Mar. 09: Church Bible Drill
- Mar. 09: Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar. 13: Pastor's Conference @ Big John's Rayville 11AM
- Mar. 14-15: Teen Girl Retreat @ Clara Springs Pelican
- Mar. 15: LCU (Louisiana Christian University) Preview Day
- Mar. 16: John 3:16 Sunday
- Mar. 22: The New Testament Deacon @ Baptist Building Alexandria
- Mar. 28-29: EMBRACE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE @ FBC Haughton

## Upcoming Events for the month of April 2025

- Apr. 04-05: RA Congress @ Tall Timbers
- Apr. 06: District Bible Drill
- Apr. 10: Pastor's Conference @ Big John's Rayville 11AM
- Apr. 11-12: Disaster Relief Training @ Temple Baptist Ruston, LA
- Apr. 18: Good Friday
- Apr. 20: Resurrection Sunday
- Apr. 22: State Bible Drill @ Temple Baptist Ruston, LA
- Apr. 28-30: Senior Saint Revival

[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 Baptist  
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...

March, the month named after the mythological Roman god of war, very much befits its name as a time of tumultuous turbulence. Falling into the transitional period of winter moving to spring, the lingering cold air and onset of warmer temps leads to strong winds as air masses collide in their own skirmishes and battles. This time has been so associated with such upheaval that it even garnered the phrase “in like a lion, out like a lamb”.

Last year in this newsletter column, I wrote about one of my favorite aspects of this month in the St. Patrick’s day holiday. So as I started to think about what to write about this year, I found myself tormented with the tyranny of the blank page. That blank page or empty canvas or clean slate is a lot like the month of March. The earth has been wiped clean of the previous year’s growth and foliage (another reason for the strong winds) and the last of that winter chill and weather is making its way out. Reminds me of the opening lines of Josh Baldwin’s song “Evidence”:

*All throughout my history Your faithfulness has walked beside me*

*The winter storms made way for spring In every season, from where I'm standing*

Interestingly enough, the lynchpin dead in the center of this month happens to be a Sunday falling on the 16th. The mathematical median of March ends up with the date 3/16. NAMB sent out a call for churches to use this opportunity to focus on the heart core “Gospel in a nutshell” that we find in John 3:16. Once upon a time, this was the most easily and readily recognized verse in all of scripture. However, in recent months, I have seen our society primarily think the gospel is primarily doing good works and deeds of compassion (those works and deeds typically being defined with a particular political slant or motivation). Jesus did not come to make a political or social revolution or to show us how to have a better world and society. Jesus came to provide the opportunity for a clean slate with God through his sacrifice on the cross driven by His love for us. Death once and for all to provide for new and abundant eternal life.

May the winds of March remind us of all the things that wind symbolizes in scripture. Jesus' departure to the Father opened the door for the blessed Holy Spirit to dwell amongst and within each of us that believe. Jesus showed God’s power over nature on the stormy seas so that we could know that no matter how strong, there is nothing greater than our God! It also reminds us that “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” -Heb. 10:31 and the seriousness of divine judgment that will be swift and complete. Jesus, unlike March, came in like a lamb but will one day return as a LION!

- Jonathan C. Young

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