



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

September 2023

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

School is back in session; We have started a new church year; There is an excitement in the air that Fall is just around the corner.

Thursday evening 7 September at Cedar Baptist Church in Archibald, all of our churches within Richland Baptist Association will be coming together as one body to hold our annual meeting. I want to encourage each church to send messengers to the meeting. The schedule for the evening is as follows:

5:30 PM: Executive Board Meeting; 6:00 PM: Our time of fellowship and sharing of a meal; 6:30 PM: Our meeting will begin. We will have representatives from the Louisiana Baptist Convention, Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and the BCM at ULM Monroe. Also we will receive reports from the various ministries within our association.

Thank each church family that contributed to our Chainsaw Ministry. If your church has not received an offering for the Chainsaw Ministry, I encourage you to do so as it is used to bless people in one of the times of great need. Through this ministry, we represent our Lord in a special way. In the near future, we hope to expand our ability to respond to disasters by offering and having people participate in training for shower and food ministry teams. Please be in prayer about participating in such a wonderful ministry.

Our Simultaneous Revival will be conducted from Monday October 2, 2023 through Thursday October 5, 2023. Flyers were sent to your church clerks as well as your pastors. I will be sending out more information in the days ahead.

Sunday, October 15, 2023 at 5:30 PM at the Richland Arts Center in Rayville, Richland Baptist Association and Mangham Baptist Church are hosting "The Man Church " Conference. Our speakers will be Rick Burgess and Rich Wingo. There is no cost for the event. We want to invite all of the men within our association, your friends and other churches to join us. Men please invite as many men as you can to join us. You Will Be Blessed!

We had a wonderful year of cooperation and drawing nearer to our Lord and each church and pastor. We are Blessed. Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Director of Missions!

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the Month of September 2023

- Sep 04: Labor Day (Office Closed)
- Sep 05: Pastor and Staff Conference @ Big John's in Rayville 11 AM
- Sep 07: Richland Association Annual Meeting @ Cedar Baptist
Executive Board Meeting 5:30 PM
Meal: 6:00 PM
Annual Meeting: 6:30 PM
- Sep 08-09: RA Survivorman @ ABC Eunice
- Sep 08-10: Championship Camp @ Tall Timbers
- Sep 10-17: Week of Prayer for Georgia Barnette Mission Offering
- Sep 16: Children's Mission Day
- Sep 19: E-4 Conference @ FBC Pineville

Upcoming Events for the Month of October 2023

- Oct 01: Co-operative Program Sunday
- Oct 02: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: First Delhi
Southern Churches: Mangham
- Oct 03: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: First Rayville
Southern Churches: Mangham
- Oct 04: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: Woodlawn
Southern Churches: Cedar
- Oct 05: Simultaneous Revival 6:30 PM
Northern Churches: Eastside
Southern Churches: Cedar

Note: All Churches North of I-20 are the Northern Churches. All Churches South of I-20 are the Southern Churches. Each Church Family is to attend each evening service in your area. Pastors or Deacons of churches without pastors, please make certain that your church family understands that this is for all churches every night.

- Oct 06-07: Camp O Ree at Camp Harris
- Oct 13-14: Minister's Wives Retreat @ Tall Timbers
- Oct 15: Man Church Conference @ Rayville Art Center 5:30 PM
- Oct 19-21: Richland Women's Retreat @ Seeker Springs
- Oct 22: Pray for Association Missions Sunday
- Oct 26-28: Richland Men's Retreat @ Seeker Springs
- Oct 29: Student Baptism Sunday

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Pastor: Beouf River Baptist
Bethel Baptist
First Baptist Rayville
Lone Cherry Baptist
New Light Baptist
Newton Baptist

Youth Minister: Alto Baptist
First Baptist Delhi
Mangham Baptist

**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...

Last month, I got to check an item off my “bucket list”. I finally got to see the Christian rock band, Petra, with founding guitarist, Bob Hartman. I had seen Petra once before back in August 25, 1995 at East Texas Baptist University but Bob had announced his stop from actively touring just before that concert. However, when I saw a 50th anniversary tour including Bob Hartman announced, my wife knew I had to go. She even got me VIP tickets!

One of the things Bob reminisced about from the stage were those early days of Petra. When they first started back in 1972, they had the idea of combining strong gospel Biblical lyrics with rock music to reach the rock n’ roll youth culture at the time. They figured (albeit naively) that the Church would be thrilled to see more people reached with the gospel. They found out very quickly that the Church didn’t want “those people” in the Church because they were different.

I have to be honest, I experienced a little bit of the same thing with the opening band that started the concert before Petra came up. They weren’t really my style of music and in many ways were hard to enjoy from a musical standpoint. Regardless, the one thing I could appreciate was their strong desire to worship God and to reach people with the gospel. To be honest, I didn’t have to totally enjoy their set but I had to be careful to not be negative or quench the Spirit working through them on account of my preferences.

Jesus experienced this as well with his disciples:

John said to Him, “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in Your name, and we tried to stop him because he wasn’t following us.”

“Don’t stop him,” said Jesus, “because there is no one who will perform a miracle in My name who can soon afterward speak evil of Me. For whoever is not against us is for us. And whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because of My name, since you belong to the Messiah—I assure you: He will never lose his reward.

-Mark 9:38-41

Let’s not be an obstacle to ministry just because it isn’t how we think it ought to be done.

- Jonathan Young

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