



Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

October 2025

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

Summer is officially over and Fall has arrived! With the changing of the seasons we see the wonder of God's Hand in His creation. Fall reminds us of the beauty that all creation puts on display for our enjoyment. Also along with Fall, the temperature begins to become cooler and we will soon see our first frost of the year.

We have several events for all of us to share together. Our Simultaneous Revival will begin on Sunday October 5, 2025 and will continue through Tuesday October 7, 2025. As in the years past, we will continue to have the Simultaneous Revival in the northern and southern part of our association. We begin the Simultaneous Revival on Sunday October 5, 2025 at Alto Baptist and Start Baptist. The service will begin at 6:00PM; this is the only night that the time to begin will be 6:00 PM. The other service start time will be 6:30PM for Monday October 6, 2025 and Tuesday October 7, 2025. Monday the Simultaneous Revival will be at Mangham Baptist and First Baptist Rayville. Tuesday the Simultaneous Revival will be at First Baptist Archibald and Woodlawn Baptist. Brother Jeff Thomas and Brother Charles Ellzey will be the Evangelists. We will receive a Love Offering for each service to be equally divided between the Evangelist.

On Monday evening October 20, 2025 we will hold our Richland Association Annual Meeting. We want to thank Alto Baptist Church for graciously offering to host the meeting and Brother Alan Miller has graciously accepted the invitation to preach the annual sermon. I want to encourage each of you to attend. The schedule for the various aspects of the meeting is included in the calendar of events within this newsletter for the month of October. If you are a pastor or an Executive Board member, please try to attend the Executive Board Meeting as we will discuss and approve all business matters prior to the beginning of the annual meeting.

The Annual Church Profile report is due. If you have not filled your church profile out via computer or sent it in to Ms. Ann Young, Richland Association secretary, please do so prior to the annual meeting. If you need assistance, please contact Ann and she will be happy to assist you.

We have relocated the Richland Baptist Association office to First Baptist Church Delhi. We have discontinued our land line phone service. You may reach us at the following phone numbers:

Johnny Smith: (318) 355-4114

Ann Young: (337) 351-2070

Yours in Christ,

Johnny

Upcoming Events for the month of October 2025

- Oct. 05: Co-OP Program Sunday
- Oct. 05: Simultaneous Revival @ 6PM
Northern Kingdom: START
Southern Kingdom: ALTO
- Oct. 06: Simultaneous Revival @ 7PM
Northern Kingdom: FIRST RAYVILLE
Southern Kingdom: MANGHAM
- Oct. 07: Simultaneous Revival @ 7PM
Northern Kingdom: WOODLAWN
Southern Kingdom: FIRST ARCHIBALD
- Oct. 10: Pastor's Conference @ Big John's 11AM
- Oct. 12: Revival Service @ Beouf River Baptist Church 5PM
Oct. 13-15: Revival Service @ Beouf River Baptist Church 7PM
- Oct. 20: Richland Baptist Assn. Annual Meeting @ ALTO
Executive Board Meeting @ 5:00 PM
Evening Meal @ 5:30 PM
Meeting Begins @ 6:15 PM
- Oct. 21: January Bible Study @ LBC 9AM-12PM

Upcoming Events for the month of November 2025

- Nov. 01: LCU Fall Preview
- Nov. 10-11: Louisiana Baptist Convention @ Randolph River Front Center
Alexandria
- Nov. 13: Pastor's Conference @ Big John's 11AM
- Nov. 23-24: Youth Evangelism Conference @ Rapides Coliseum Alexandria
- Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)

[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
Holly Ridge
Lone Cherry
Westside

**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...

With the last day of September, our world finds itself a week removed from the latest hysteria over the end times. Social media and the internet was all ablaze with those filled with excited anticipation and critical naysayers alike. The whole thing was initially stirred up by this one pastor in South Africa stating that Jesus had appeared to him in a vision and given him the date. Showing a lack of understanding when it comes to Matthew 24:36-44 which states clearly “*no* [one except God the Father himself] *knows the day or the hour*”. Many content creators that focus on scripture and religious items in the current purview quickly jumped on this inconsistency between this pastor’s claim and the truth of scripture. Instead of being some prognosticator or prognosticators, this pastor became yet another sign of the end times to be sure but in the form of a false prophet.

Equally disturbing were a number of posts and messages out there by atheists and agnostics alike saying, “I wish this rapture thing was real because all those annoying people would finally be gone.” My heart broke to read this even from some pretty nasty people. Much like when Jesus said, “Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do” or in this case SAY. Did they really think through the ramifications of that statement? If the rapture truly happened and all the true followers of Christ were gone, what would that mean for that person as one of the “Left Behind”. Would anyone really want to be one of those? And yet as the week continued on, we had an act of violence perpetrated on a religious gathering that made the national news. The hate for those that claim the name of Christ seems to be reaching a violent boiling point.

However, it seems more and more we see gatherings of believers devoid of “a spirit of power, of love, and of a sound mind” (as in 2 Timothy 1:7). On one hand, we are living in a spirit of fear of what the future holds, what might happen to us for claiming the name of Christ, and what will people think of me. At the same time, while not suggesting we believe in folks like that aforementioned South African pastor, do we have a healthy anticipation of God doing the unexplainable and miraculous in our midst. Have we become so hard and skeptical by the fakes and phonies that it has made our wonder at the mysterious ways of God dim? I pray that isn’t so, lest that prayer go no further than the ceiling of the room I am in because I do not have the “faith of a mustard seed.”

- Jonathan C. Young

Richland Baptist Association

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