



# Richland Baptist Association Newsletter

August 2024

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

Summer Vacation for our educators and students is rapidly coming to an end. One of the most important things that we can do for each of them is to pray for them daily. When I was a pastor, I would contact the school board office and acquire a listing of all personnel that worked within the local schools system. I would divide the listing among our church family and assign them someone to pray for on a daily basis. Also, we would pray daily for the students that attended our church. Along with that, we would send notes to our person that we prayed for to encourage them and to let them know that they were appreciated. If you have not done this, I encourage you to pray about doing this prayer ministry, Everyone involved will be truly blessed.

A big thank you to the churches that allowed me the privilege to come share the word concerning the ministries of our association and how each of you are part of those ministries. If you would like for me to come during any of your meeting times to share what we as an association of churches are doing together to spread the gospel and be the hands and feet of Jesus, call me and we schedule a time that is convenient for you.

There are a few major events coming up that I ask you to place on your church calendar and announce to your church family frequently, (Check the Upcoming Events Calendar).

1. Richland Baptist Annual Meeting, It will be held on Thursday September 5, 2024. Woodlawn Baptist will host the meeting this year. It is for all of our churches within the Richland Baptist Association. Please come and conduct the business of your association. We will have a time of worship following the meeting. Brother Charles Ellzey will preach the Annual Sermon.
2. DRY BONES MENS' CONFERENCE ON Sunday evening, September 22, 2024. It will be held at the Monroe Civic Center and will begin at 6:00PM. The doors will open at 5:00PM.
3. Our 2nd annual Simultaneous Revival will be Monday September 30, 2024 through Thursday October 3, 2024. Please begin now praying for the evangelists and plan to attend each night. I will be sending out more information of host churches for the northern and southern ends of the association at a later date.

Yours in Christ,

Johnny

## Upcoming Events for the month of August 2024

- Aug 01: Annual Church Profile submission time is open. (Each church please complete,) If you need assistance, please contact Mrs. Ann Young. Church Clerks, Please fill out the ACP Forms. If I can assist you in any way, contact me at (318) 355-4114. Let's have a 100% participation this year.
- Aug 08: Budget and Nominating Committee Meetings @ RBA Office  
Pastor/Staff Conference and lunch @ Big John's Rayville 11AM.
- Aug 22: Church Conflict Summit @ LBC Building Alexandria. 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- Aug 24: Beouf River Baptist Silent Auction: Hamburger plates and other food items plus a silent auction on various things. 5-7PM in the Fellowship Hall  
RE-GROUP North: Cypress Baptist Church Benton, LA
- Aug 25: Global Hunger Sunday

## Upcoming Events for the month of September 2024

- Sep 02: Labor Day
- Sep 05: Richland Baptist Association Annual Meeting @ Woodlawn Baptist Church in Rayville. The Executive Board meets at 5:00 PM. Supper at 6:00 PM. The Annual Meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.
- Sep 06: RA Survivor Man Camp at Acadian Baptist Encampment, (ABC) Eunice
- Sep 07: RA Survivor Man Camp at Acadian Baptist Encampment, (ABC) Eunice  
Champion Camp at Tall Timbers Baptist Encampment Woodworth
- Sep 08: Georgia Barnett Week of Prayer. Will continue through September 15  
Champion Camp at Tall Timbers Baptist Encampment Woodworth
- Sep 18: First Baptist Delhi hosts a meal and worship service for First Responders. Meal is at 5:00 PM.
- Sep 19: Pastor/Staff Conference and lunch at 11:00AM. Big John's Rayville.
- Sep. 22: DRY BONES MEN'S CONFERENCE MONROE  
(CIVIC CENTER) 6:00 PM. For more information:  
[WWW.DRYBONESMENSCONFERENCE.ORG](http://WWW.DRYBONESMENSCONFERENCE.ORG) or  
[INFO@DRYBONESMENSCONFERENCE.ORG](mailto:INFO@DRYBONESMENSCONFERENCE.ORG)  
First Baptist Archibald Homecoming  
Childrens' Mission Sunday
- Sep 28: Caring Well 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 Baptist  
Cedar Baptist  
Lone Cherry Baptist  
New Light  
Newton Baptist  
Westside Baptist

Part-Time Youth Minister: First Baptist Archibald

Pianist: Westside  
Zebedee

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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...

Have you ever been through a tough and painful time of trials and tribulations that seemed to test your soul to the near breaking point. It was almost like if I have one more bit of pressure on this point in my life, it will be “the straw that broke the camel’s back” and then just like when Jesus calmed the storms on the Sea of Galilee with a “Peace Be Still” it was over and peace came. In the moments and weeks and months, maybe even years after, what happened in your thinking about that weak place? Some might start to work and get prepared that they might not get blindsided in the same way again. Maybe some of us relax into a place of “thank God that is over for good” mixed with a little side thought of “I’m never going through that again.” (Many of us know the rough experience of trying to tell God not just “No” but “Never” as if it almost guarantees a revisiting of that place.) Maybe even some of us chimed in the old adages of “That’s just my cross to bear!” or “I guess that’s my thorn in the flesh” referring to that weak spot. Many times these things leave a spiritual scar, a bit of theological tendonitis, and maybe even a bit of apostolic arthritis.

Jacob came away from his struggle with God with a “hitch in his giddyap”. I’m sure Simon Peter was both relieved and broken-hearted when Jesus asked of Peter’s love for Jesus three times at the seaside. We have a tendency to think that our trials, struggles, and moments where we fall are all in the past never to be revisited or try to claim that “where I am weak, He is strong” as a badge of honor. However, scripture seems to paint a different picture of how we are to respond to these rough patches and sore spots in our lives and walk:

*“Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.*

*4 Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not!*

*Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.”*

**-Isaiah 35:3-4**

We are encouraged in Isaiah to not skip “physical therapy” on the body of Christ but to rebuild up and strengthen those weak places. Weren’t we given a ministry of reconciliation and restoration?

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Richland Baptist Association

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