



THE ANCHOR

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the LORD, because you know that your labor in the LORD is not in vain." I Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)

VOL. 25

APRIL-MAY 2023

NO. 2

Listening Sessions

Re: Developing a New Rationale for the Northshore

10:30 listening session (1 hour) followed by 11:45 lunch

Tuesday, April 18

First, Hammond

Tuesday, May 9

Thompson Road, Slidell

Thursday, May 18

First, Ponchatoula

Tuesday, May 23

First, Folsom

These meetings will follow the same format and cover the same information as the January 17 Executive Board meeting.

Choose which meeting you would like to attend and RSVP for lunch to office@northshorebaptists.net or 225-567-5086.



He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. —Matthew 28:6

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Timothy 2:1-4 is the prayer watchword for everything we do in the Northshore Baptist Association.

Louisiana Association of Baptist Ministry Assistants

(for administrative/ministry assistants and secretaries)



Regional Conference

Monday, April 24

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For more information and registration go to:
<https://louisianabaptists.org/event/2023-affirmed-encouraged-labma-alexandria>

Northshore Church News

●**First (Covington)** Special Needs Family Fest & Expo **Yes, We Can** will be held on Saturday, April 1, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is free to families. Prepare your heart for Easter at the **Maundy Thursday service** on Thursday, April 6, at 7 p.m. in the worship center. This special time of prayer, worship, and communion is set aside to remember Christ's final gathering with his disciples prior to laying his life down for our sins. **Preschool Easter celebration** is planned for Friday, April 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. with outdoor movie night and pizza. Please bring your own lawn chair. Email Darlene Drivon at ddrivon@fbccov.org to register. The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 5. Worship services and Connect Groups will meet at regular times on Easter Sunday, 9:30 and 11 a.m. **Samaritan Center food drive** continues through April 2. Most needed items are canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti, etc.), canned spaghetti sauce (no glass bottles please), and boxes of hot cereal items (oatmeal, grits, etc.). Waylon Bailey is pastor.

●**New Zion (Covington)** Easter drama will be presented Saturday, April 1, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 2, at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free and a nursery is provided. Bro. Josh Fauntleroy will preach in revival services Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 30, at 10:30 a.m. Clark Stewart is pastor.

●**Crossgate (Robert)** will have The Stephens family leading worship service on Easter Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Invite your family and friends and come join us. Louis Husser is pastor.

●**First (Slidell)** annual church-wide **Crawfish Boil** is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, starting at 5 p.m. in the back parking area. The cost is \$10 per person. Please bring a dessert to share. Hamburgers or hot dogs and drinks will be provided also. *HisKids* Children's Ministry and Preschool Ministry will have an **Easter Egg Hunt** on Wednesday, April 12, at 6 p.m. on the back lawn. **Awana** finishes for the school year on Wednesday, May 3, with their awards program. The **Awana Grand Prix** will be Saturday, May 13. Cars are available in the Education Office. The **Senior Baccalaureate Service** will be Sunday, May 7, starting at 8:30 a.m. in the gym for breakfast and then the service at 10 a.m. The **Adults 55+** group meets the last Friday of every month at 12 noon for lunch, devotions, and a guest speaker. Reservations are required by the Monday before the meeting. The next two meetings are April 28 and May 26. A trip to Avery Island is being planned for May. Details to be announced. Pastor is Casey Stark.

●**Grace Memorial (Slidell)** Easter musical will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 2, at 10:30 a.m. The GMBC adult choir, orchestra, and band, under the direction of Michael Mohler, and narrated by Dub Lane will present the musical, "Echoes of Easter." Kingdom Kid's Easter Eggstravaganza will be Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m.-12 noon with fellowship, games, egg hunt, and other activities. New administrative assistant is Fallon R. Moore. Pastor is Jerry Smith.

●**First (Mandeville)** is seeking to hire a children's ministry assistant to serve with children from birth through 6th grade and their families. He/She will provide assistance with planning, preparation, and execution of weekly children's ministry activities and other events throughout the year. The children's ministry assistant will work under the direction of the children's minister and leadership of the senior pastor. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain hands-on ministry experience. If interested, please send your resume to children@fbcmmandeville.org. Pastor is Ronny Cooksey.

●**Bedico (Ponchatoula)** Annual Easter Eggstravaganza is Sunday, April 2, at 3 p.m. and is free to the community with snowballs, cotton candy, egg hunt, face painting, Easter story, candy, and more. Good Friday Service "Remember (Lord's Supper Communion)" is April 7 at 6 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 9, services schedule is 7 a.m. Sunrise Service, and Rejoice Easter Celebration Service at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Baby Dedication Service is Sunday, May 7, at 10:30 a.m. For more information on any of these events or services please call the church office at 985-845-3417. Dustin Stockstill is pastor.

Plan Ahead

Reserve the NBA Block Party Trailer Now



End of School
Celebration

Vacation
Bible School

Youth
Events

Children's
Events

Churchwide
Activities

Call your NBA office at 225-567-5086 or email office@northshorebaptists.net for more information.



Mark Your Calendar

APRIL 2023

- March 31-April 1 RA Congress @ Tall Timbers
<https://louisianabaptists.org/event/ra-congress>
- 9 Easter
- 18 Listening Session (see page 1 for details)
- 21-22 Embrace Women's Conference (see this page for details)
- 21-22 Caskey Conference @ NOBTS (see this page for details)
- 23-29 Administrative Professionals Week
- 24 Ministry Assistants' Conference @ Baptist Building, Alexandria (see page 1 for details)

MAY 2023

- 6 M-Jam <https://louisianabaptists.org/event/2023-m-jam>
- 9 Listening Session (see page 1 for details)
- 14 Mother's Day
- 18 Listening Session (see page 1 for details)
- 23 Listening Session (see page 1 for details)
- 29 Memorial Day (Northshore office closed)



CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

Since 1937

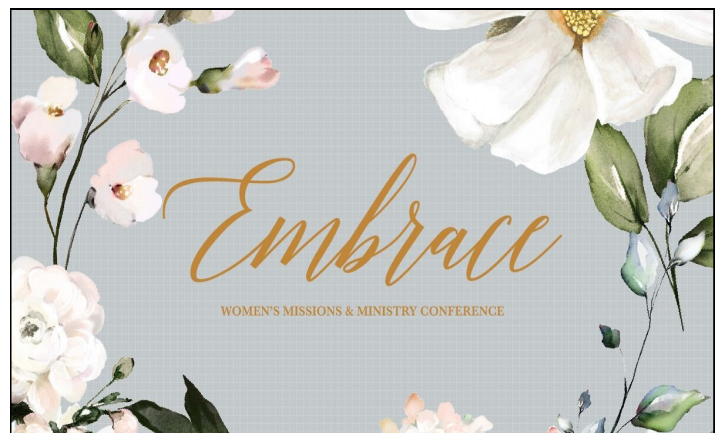
Reaching children worldwide™

For the past 5 years, I have been working with a ministry that has at its heart reaching children with the gospel. Child Evangelism Fellowship is an international ministry. The Northshore Chapter of CEF (which includes St. Tammany, Washington, Tangipahoa, and St. Helena Parishes) is one of 10 chapters in Louisiana.

CEF can assist churches in reaching children through Good News Clubs and 5-Day Clubs. Good News Clubs usually meet in schools after the final dismissal. CEF has excellent curriculum to use during the clubs and will provide training for the church's volunteers. The 5-Day Clubs are similar to Backyard Bible Clubs that you may be familiar with.

CEF would like to partner with as many churches this summer for 5-Day Clubs in your church's neighborhoods. Give me a call or send me an email, and I'll come show you more about CEF.

Pastor Ken Schroeder
SweetWater Church, Abita Springs
CEF Northshore Ambassador
985-630-4960
ken@swcnorthshore.org



Embrace Women's Conference

April 21-22

First Baptist Church, Natchitoches

Embrace is an event designed to help all women of all cultures and all generations to realize our God-given value and purpose as we grow in Christ. Breakout sessions will offer encouragement to fulfill our purposes through physical, spiritual, mental and emotional development.

<https://louisianabaptists.org/event/embrace-womens-conference-2>

Welcome

Pastors & Staff



Joshua Peeler

Joshua Peeler
Pastor
Bethlehem, Albany

ShoreLines

By Don Pucik

Associational Mission Strategist

I walked into the drafty motel room on a chilly Saturday afternoon, pushing the door closed with my foot and setting my bags down on the thin, worn carpet. Surveying the room in the dim light, I noticed two double beds with a nightstand, a small round table and chair, and a long bureau with a TV sitting on top. Nothing unusual, but a little more drab than usual... think early sixties "Bates Motel" decor and you'll have the picture. Traveling over 40,000 miles a year in Arkansas serving churches, I spent several nights each month on the road. The year was 2006.

It was in that motel that God spoke to me about the temptation to watch things on television where no one else could see what I might be doing... except Him. As I stood there looking at the room, He brought to mind how many times I had been tempted before. How I would often call my wife as an escape, exposing the temptation by telling her about it. It worked. By uncovering (instead of hiding) a temptation, I found that I didn't "want to" anymore (Ephesians 5:11, 1 Peter 5:9, James 4:7). The "attraction" and "pull" of the sin dissipated and became more manageable. Jesus did that when He was tempted (Matthew 4:3-4). He became adversarial and so should I.



Don Pucik

But this moment was different.

"You don't know what has gone on here in the past, but I do. And they haven't left." The thoughts that formed in my mind were His thoughts. He was showing me something I needed to understand. God speaks in many ways in the Bible, and He speaks clearly today, whether...

- through the Scriptures (an awareness that the text I am reading is something He is speaking to me),
- through prayer (an ongoing inner conversation between Him and me),
- through the church (those moments when through a believing friend, a pastor's sermon, or a small group discussion I realize He is speaking), or
- through circumstances (reaching a conclusion that God is guiding through my experiences).

Frozen in place, standing in the middle of that motel room, I understood I had been experiencing a pattern of temptation that was more intense in some places than in others. Hundreds of people had stayed in that room before me. Hundreds of nights. Hundreds of temptations. It was a place where a husband had cheated on his wife; where a woman had degraded herself; where a young man had tried to drown his troubles in alcohol or drugs; and where a child had been abused. I don't know the details. But I know that in some hotels, I experienced much more temptation than in others. It was happening there.

Please don't misunderstand me. I am culpable for my response to temptation. In fact, I cannot be tempted unless some part of me "wants" to do it. James writes, *"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed"* (James 1:14). Nevertheless, there is an ancient, intelligent, and unseen personality at work behind many of our temptations: Jesus teaches us to pray against the temptation offered by the *"evil one"* (Matthew 6:13). Sometimes demons take up residence in people.

They can also hang out in hotel rooms.

Interestingly, when Jesus cast the demons out of the Gadarene man, the evil ones *"begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country"* (Mark 5:10). They liked that place. They wanted to stay in that geographical region. And for whatever reason, they were attached to that motel room I was in, exacerbating the away-from-home temptations of every man and woman who stayed there, night after night, and year after year.

In Ephesians 4:26-27, Paul writes, *"Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil."* The Greek word simply translated "place" can refer to someone's territory or a dwelling, but in

(Continued on Page 5)

ShoreLines

By Don Pucik

Associational Mission Strategist

(Continued from Page 4)

some contexts, it can also describe a sanctuary or a holy place. Paul is teaching that strong, out-of-control emotions (like anger) can create a point-of-entry for the devil into a person's life. If I fail to process my emotions and hurts before the Lord, letting Him into my hurts, and exercising forgiveness, then I am allowing myself to be unduly and persistently influenced by a demon... seriously. To give in to sin is an invitation to the enemy to come and "camp out" in my life. I knew this, standing there in the middle of that motel room.

So, I didn't call my wife that night. I called on Him. I prayed, "*Lord, I don't know what's gone on in this place before I got here. But I do know I am being tempted to use this place as a hideout for my own sin... and I don't want that. So Lord, I want this to be holy ground. I want to be alone here with You. I want this room to be a place where—at any time—You can speak to me without interference from the enemy. Just You and me, and nobody else.*"

And everything changed. The demons had a bad night. I had time alone with Him. The dreary room had become a sacred space... and so did my heart. ~ DP



We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God granted to the churches of Macedonia [NBA]: During a severe testing by affliction, their abundance of joy and their deep poverty overflowed into the wealth of their generosity. — 2 Corinthians 8:1-2 HCSB

Northshore Baptist Association Church Contributions

The NBA defines a member church as one which does the following (among other things):
Contributes financially to support the work of the Association.

	Jan-Feb	YTD		Jan-Feb	YTD		Jan-Feb	YTD
Albany First	1,215.31	1,215.31	Lee Hill	-0-	-0-	Woodhaven	111.00	111.00
Antioch	10.00	10.00	Lee Valley	-0-	-0-	Woodland	-0-	-0-
Bayou	100.00	100.00	Life	-0-	-0-	Woodland Park	2,367.66	2,367.66
Bedico	1,157.00	1,157.00	Lighthouse	1,694.48	1,694.48	Eastside (watchcare)	-0-	-0-
Bethlehem	700.00	700.00	Loranger	1,686.18	1,686.18	TOTAL	45,443.94	45,443.94
Blood River	582.34	582.34	Manchac	-0-	-0-			
Bogue Falaya	-0-	-0-	Midway	-0-	-0-	Expenditures	40,906.78	40,906.78
Calvary	50.00	50.00	Millville	-0-	-0-	Church Receipts	45,443.94	45,443.94
Celebration (Cov/Mand)	500.00	500.00	Mt. Calvary	134.07	134.07	Additional Income	-0-	-0-
Celebration (Slidell)	500.00	500.00	Natalbany	756.12	756.12	Balance		138,835.66
Coburn	-0-	-0-	New Beginning	-0-	-0-	Designated Accounts		903,398.17
Collins Blvd.	150.00	150.00	New Beulah	-0-	-0-			
Countryside	-0-	-0-	New Hope	-0-	-0-			
Covenant	-0-	-0-	New Life Community	125.00	125.00			
Creekside	-0-	-0-	New Zion	1,577.55	1,577.55			
Cristo para Todos	-0-	-0-	Northshore	1,833.34	1,833.34			
Crossbrand	514.28	514.28	Northside	389.13	389.13			
Crossgate	-0-	-0-	Old Zion Hill	923.43	923.43			
Crossroads	1,124.54	1,124.54	Ponchatoula's First	3,320.50	3,320.50			
Ebenezer	519.66	519.66	Red Bluff	460.01	460.01			
Emmaus	-0-	-0-	Redemption, Lacombe	300.00	300.00			
Evans Creek	300.51	300.51	Redemption Christian	-0-	-0-			
First, Covington	5,833.34	5,833.34	Ridge Memorial	-0-	-0-			
First, Folsom	538.80	538.80	River Fellowship	567.78	567.78			
First, Hammond	514.04	514.04	Serenity	-0-	-0-			
First, Independence	200.00	200.00	Springville	86.28	86.28			
First, Madisonville	-0-	-0-	Still Water	-0-	-0-			
First, Mandeville	2,500.00	2,500.00	SweetWater	423.18	423.18			
First, Pearl River	423.30	423.30	Tammany Hills	459.39	459.39			
First, Slidell	1,566.66	1,566.66	The Bridge	200.00	200.00			
First, Springfield	40.17	40.17	Thompson Road	230.88	230.88			
First, Tickfaw	-0-	-0-	Trinity	1,176.00	1,176.00			
French Corner	279.38	279.38	True Life	200.00	200.00			
Grace Community	402.30	402.30	Victory	-0-	-0-			
Grace Fellowship	761.00	761.00	Wardline	-0-	-0-			
Grace Hispanic	-0-	-0-	Westside	1,447.56	1,447.56			
Grace Memorial	2,235.00	2,235.00						
Greater St. James	-0-	-0-						
Hebron	600.00	600.00						
Iglesia Agua Viva	-0-	-0-						
Iglesia Buenas Nuevas	183.74	183.74						
Iglesia Cristo Redentor	166.68	166.68						
Immanuel	262.75	262.75						
Jerusalem	1,043.60	1,043.60						
Killian First	-0-	-0-						

Northshore Baptist Association

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Serving the Lord **NEW ORLEANS** **Serving others**

SBC Annual Meeting

June 11-14

2023 SBC Annual Meeting - New Orleans, LA