

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 17 - 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch

Mandeville's First Baptist Church - 1895 Highway 190, Mandeville

Pastors & Executive Board representatives please RSVP by January 10 to office@northshorebaptists.net or 225-567-5086.

This meeting will include a listening session - re: developing a new rationale for the Northshore.

All member churches are entitled to send their pastor (or the church's designee) and one other designated person to represent them in the conducting of Associational business.



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. 24

DECEMBER 2022-JANUARY 2023

NO. 6



Christmas on the Northshore

- **Grace Memorial (Slidell)** Christmas events are: Adult Choir, Band, and Orchestra Musical, "Glorious Light of Christmas," Sunday, December 4, 6 p.m. Preschool Choir Performs, Sunday, December 11, 10:30 a.m., during the morning worship time. Children's Musical, "The Light Has Come," Sunday, December 11, 6 p.m. Ladies of Grace Open House Tour, Sunday, December 11, 1-4 p.m. (5 homes; tickets available for \$20, proceeds go to Macedonia Missions). Living Nativity, Saturday, December 17, and Sunday, December 18, 6-9 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Saturday, December 24, 5 p.m. Christmas Day Worship is at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 58516 Pearl Acres Road, Slidell. Pastor is Jerry Smith
- **Bethlehem (Albany)** BKids will present Christmas Carols to start the Christmas season in the morning worship service on December 4 at 10 a.m. A night of worship service "Love Came Down" will be December 18 at 5 p.m. led by the band Sparreaux. Christmas morning worship will be at 10 a.m. on December 25. A ladies Christmas breakfast will be held on December 3 at 9 a.m. The town of Albany will have their annual Christmas parade on Monday, December 12, starting at 7 p.m. The church is located at 29350 S. Montpelier Road, Albany. Alan Bandy is interim pastor.
- **First (Covington)** children, youth, adult choirs, and orchestra will present a special time of worship, "The Thrill of Hope", on Friday, December 9, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, December 10, at 2 and 6 p.m. Tickets are not required for this event. Christmas Eve Communion services will be held at 1, 3, and 5 p.m. on December 24. Childcare is by reservation only. Please email Darlene at ddrivon@fbccov.org. Christmas Day worship will be at 10 a.m. The church is located at 16333 Highway 1085, Covington. Waylon Bailey is pastor.
- **First (Ponchatoula)** Music Ministry will present their annual Christmas Spectacular 2022 - "King Jesus is His Name" - on Sunday, December 11, at 6 p.m. They invite everyone on the North Shore to enjoy the story of the birth of Christ and hope that this will help to get our churches in the Christmas Spirit. The Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra will present the music. You will not want to miss this Christmas event. The church is located at 325 E. Pine Street, Ponchatoula. Chip Vickers is music pastor. David Cranford is pastor.
- **Thompson Road (Slidell)** annual Christmas Eve service will be at 6 p.m. on December 24 with an evening of worship through music and scripture celebrating the true meaning of Christmas. The church is located at 59008 Highway 433 (Thompson Road), Slidell. Randy Boyett is pastor.

- **Mandeville's First Baptist** will have a live nativity walk through December 10 and 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. The church is located at 1895 Highway 190, Mandeville. Pastor is Ronny Cooksey.
- **Red Bluff (Folsom)** will present their Christmas Cantata, "Noel! Born Is the King!" Sunday, December 11, at 3:30 p.m. A fellowship will follow immediately afterward the program. The church is located at 15204 Highway 1078, Folsom. Pastor is Cody Roberts.
- **Woodland Park (Hammond)** choir and orchestra will present *Invitation to a Miracle* Sunday, December 11, at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1909 J.W. Davis Drive, Hammond. Tim Moffett is pastor.
- **Old Zion Hill (Independence)** Student Choir musical "Jingle Bell Beach" will be presented Saturday, December 17, and Sunday, December 18, at 5 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Worship Center. The church is located at 25890 Highway 442 Independence. Everyone is invited to attend. Pastor is Gary Dennis.
- **First (Independence)** Christmas program will be Sunday, December 18, at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 375 Pine Street, Independence. Mitch Williams is pastor.
- **SweetWater (Abita Springs)** will have an evening of Christmas worship on Wednesday, December 21, at 6:30 p.m. SweetWater meets at the Abita Springs Recreation Center at 22519 LA 36. Ken Schroeder is pastor.
- **Immanuel (Hammond)** will host a *Light in the Darkest Night* Service on Wednesday, December 21, at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the service is to encourage us to recognize God's presence in the midst of darkness and pain. Our time together will be to remind us that we are not on this journey alone . . . God is a very present help. Come as you are. Tears and a heaviness of heart are accepted and welcomed. A soup, bread, and salad celebration will follow. The church is located at 1503 Pecan Street, Hammond. Pastor is Mark Goree
- **Celebration (Mandeville/Covington)** Christmas services are: December 23 at 7 p.m. Spanish; December 24, 4 and 5:30 p.m. English; December 25 - online at <http://celebrationchurch.org>. The church is located at 2101 N. Causeway, Mandeville. Pastor is Chad Richardson.
- **Bedico (Ponchatoula)** Christmas Eve Celebration will be Saturday, December 24, at 5 p.m. with the telling of the Christmas Story and singing many of the traditional Christmas songs with a special song performed by the kids. Cookies and cocoa and a photo booth will be at 4 p.m. A special Christmas Day Service will be at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, December 25. Come and join us as we celebrate Christmas and the birth of our Savior. The church is located at 28156 Highway 22 E, Ponchatoula. Pastor is Dustin Stockstill.



Mark Your Calendar

Northshore Baptist Association

DECEMBER 2022

- 4-11 Week of Prayer for International Mission and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- 23-Jan 2 Northshore office closed for Christmas and New Year's holidays
- 25 Christmas Day

JANUARY 2023

- 1 New Year's Day
- 2 Northshore office closed for New Year's Day
- 17 Executive Board Meeting at Mandeville's FBC (see page 1 for details)
- 23-24 LBC Evangelism Conference
<https://louisianabaptists.org/event/2023-evangelism-conference-econ/>

FEBRUARY 2023

- 4 Disaster Relief Training @ Vintage Church, Metairie
<https://louisianabaptists.org/event/disaster-relief-training-metairie/>

Northshore Church News

• **First (Covington) Adults 55+ Spring Celebration** will be Tuesday, March 21, 2023, in the Worship Center beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding with lunch at noon. Cost is \$10 (payable at the door and includes lunch). Southern gospel music will be provided by Terry Blackwood, former lead singer of The Imperials. ONLINE REGISTRATION is REQUIRED at <http://www.fbccov.org/adults-55>. Registration begins on February 1. The deadline to register or cancel is 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15.



Week of Prayer for International Missions

December 4-11, 2022

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

National Goal: \$190 Million

Welcome

Pastors & Staff



Rafael & Karla Espinoza

Rafael Espinoza
Pastor
*Iglesia Cristo Redentor,
Mandeville*

Ronny Cooksey
Pastor
*Mandeville's
First Baptist*



Ronny & Kathy Cooksey & Family

Your NBA Administrative Council

- **Moderator:** David Cranford (First, Ponchatoula)
- **Vice-Moderator:** Jay Victory (Northshore)
- **Clerk:** Eric Hammond (First, Slidell)
- **Treasurer:** Rickie Wilson (Hebron)
- **Church Multiplication Team Leader:** Gary Dennis (Old Zion Hill)
- **Discipleship Development Team Leader:** Asah Hudgins (Crossroads)
- **Missions/Evangelism Team Leader:** Avery Dixon (Trinity)
- **Pastoral Ministries Team Leader:** Randy Boyett (Thompson Road)
- **Support Ministries Team Leader:** Stacie Ray (River Fellowship)

At Large Members

- George Burris (Historic Greater St. James)
- Ernest Graham (Woodland)
- Marvin Mercado (Iglesia Agua Viva and Iglesia Buenas Nuevas)
- Tim Moffett (Woodland Park)
- Andrew Ogea (Northshore)
- Will Robbins (First, Folsom)

ShoreLines

By Don Pucik

Associational Mission Strategist

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Matthew 2:9-11

They fell down and worshiped Him... stunning.

These travelers arrived as much as two years after the birth of Jesus. The young family was living in a house in Bethlehem, not overnighing in a stable. The shepherds had long since come and gone. Jesus was walking by now.

The text does not tell us the wise men were kings, nor that there were three of them. They are the Magi... scientists and religious scholars who combined astronomical observation with astrological speculation. It is likely that they knew some Jews where they came from... and they would have been equally aware of the Jewish hopes for a Messiah. They traveled a great distance, led by a star that had the capacity to be movable, and then motionless. These men who had spent most of their lives peering at the night sky recognized something special about the star and attached great significance to it.



Don Pucik

I have so many questions for these guys.

- what are your names?
- how many of you were there?
- where did you go after you saw the baby?
- what did you do for the remainder of your lives?
- why did you fall down and worship...a toddler?

The word *worship* used here finds its root in the Greek word *proskuneo*. *Pros* means "towards" and *kuneo* means "to kiss." It means *to lie prostrate*, literally leading with the lips towards the object of honor. These men fell down and did that... before a toddler. Somehow these men put it together: this was no ordinary baby.

Yes, they gave the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But long before they gave their gifts, these dear men **GAVE THEMSELVES!**

Models for you and me, the wise men show us the most powerful way to experience Christmas.

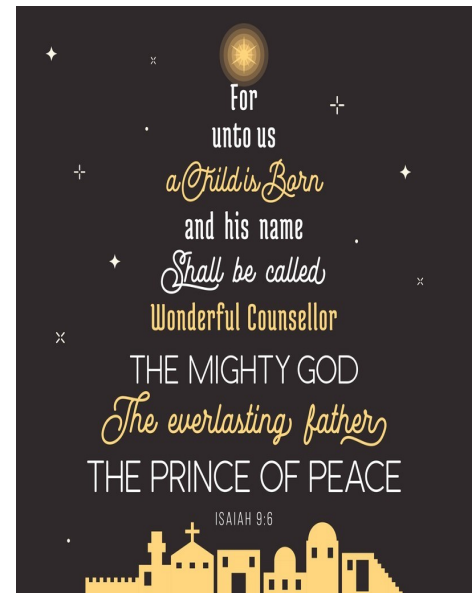
P.S. I want to encourage you to come and be a part of our **January 17, 2023, Executive Board** meeting and Luncheon. **Meeting at 10:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Mandeville**, this gathering will be the first in a series of "listening sessions" as we begin to re-think the rationale for a group of Baptist churches to "associate" together. What kind of network of churches in the Northshore do you want to be a part of? What would they do that would be most meaningful to you and the church you serve? We hope to see you in January!

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.

	Sept-Oct	YTD		Sept-Oct	YTD		Sept-Oct	YTD
Albany First	725.19	4,036.06	Lee Valley	-0-	-0-	Wardline	200.00	3,100.00
Antioch	21.78	162.87	Life	-0-	-0-	Westside	1,282.04	5,951.66
Bayou	100.00	550.00	Lighthouse	-0-	1,136.82	Woodhaven	133.00	724.00
Bedico	1,052.00	4,996.19	Loranger	2,794.12	5,628.78	Woodland	-0-	695.32
Bethlehem	1,076.00	3,850.00	Louisiana	-0-	-0-	Woodland Park	2,291.42	11,286.04
Blood River	924.28	3,228.66	Manchac	-0-	-0-	TOTAL	47,819.42	231,514.34
Bogue Falaya	1,094.85	2,511.16	Mandeville's First	2,500.00	12,500.00	Expenditures	41,870.09	205,403.32
Calvary	200.00	1,000.00	Midway	-0-	-0-	Church Receipts	47,819.42	231,514.34
Celebration (Cov/Mand)	250.00	2,500.00	Millville	-0-	1,006.00	Additional Income	-0-	30.28
Celebration (Slidell)	250.00	2,500.00	Mt. Calvary	42.90	469.12	Balance		136,413.42
Coburn	-0-	-0-	Natalbany	1,362.35	6,814.90	Designated Accounts		897,216.47
Collins Blvd.	150.00	600.00	New Beginning	300.00	900.00			
Countryside	-0-	-0-	New Beulah	254.45	877.00			
Covenant	50.00	425.00	New Hope	-0-	-0-			
Creekside	300.00	900.00	New Life Community	125.00	1,250.00			
Cristo para Todos	-0-	-0-	New Zion	1,351.80	13,825.68			
Crossbrand	173.32	1,997.70	Northshore	1,833.34	9,166.70			
Crossgate	100.00	500.00	Northside	443.70	2,303.73			
Crossroads	1,119.78	5,598.90	Old Zion Hill	342.64	2,173.65			
Ebenezer	318.07	2,271.64	Ponchatoula's First	4,853.29	15,266.68			
Emmaus	-0-	300.00	Red Bluff	486.75	1,785.98			
Evans Creek	632.35	1,617.05	Redemption, Lacombe	200.00	1,000.00			
First, Covington	5,000.00	24,666.67	Redemption Christian	-0-	-0-			
First, Folsom	994.39	6,005.72	Ridge Memorial	25.00	75.00			
First, Hammond	601.31	2,044.52	River Fellowship	446.30	2,537.92			
First, Independence	200.00	1,000.00	Serenity	-0-	409.02			
First, Madisonville	-0-	-0-	Springville	153.28	670.12			
First, Pearl River	759.04	5,218.90	Still Water	-0-	-0-			
First, Slidell	1,566.66	7,833.30	SweetWater	53.54	1,067.14			
First, Springfield	99.14	641.77	Tammany Hills	752.32	3,020.55			
First, Tickfaw	-0-	-0-	The Bridge	200.00	1,100.00			
French Corner	456.46	1,988.48	The Field Church	-0-	325.00			
Grace Community	842.07	842.07	Thompson Road	445.32	2,748.05			
Grace Fellowship	651.90	3,370.26	Trinity	733.00	3,906.00			
Grace Hispanic	-0-	-0-	True Life	200.00	1,000.00			
Grace Memorial	1,710.00	10,278.00	Victory	-0-	-0-			
Greater St. James	-0-	300.00						
Hebron	600.00	2,400.00						
Iglesia Agua Viva	-0-	7.64						
Iglesia Buenas Nuevas	161.80	886.22						
Iglesia Cristo Redentor	124.88	416.53						
Immanuel	179.80	949.20						
Jerusalem	1,028.79	5,402.04						
Killian First	-0-	2,396.93						
Lee Hill	-0-	-0-						



Your Northshore Staff Wishes You
a Merry Christmas and
a Blessed New Year.
Don Pucik - Kathy Cason



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

Your NBA Staff

Don Pucik

Association Mission Strategist

DPucik@NorthshoreBaptists.net

225.567.5086

Kathy Cason

Administrative Assistant

Office@NorthshoreBaptists.net

225.567.5086

Northshore Baptist Association

Location:

16333 Highway 1085

Covington, LA 70433

On the campus of FBC Covington
West Entrance

Mailing Address:

70380 Highway 21, Suite 2 #254

Covington, LA 70433

Phone: 225.567.5086

E-mail:

Office@NorthshoreBaptists.net

Website:

www.NorthshoreBaptists.net