



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. 26

JUNE-JULY 2024

NO. 3



July 4 - Independence Day

It's Time for VBS

June 3-6: Collins Blvd. (Covington) - 6:00-8:00 p.m. 601-701-7158.

June 3-7: First (Ponchatoula) - 8:30 a.m.-Noon. Ages: Completed Pre-K through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. 985-386-3075. [More Information.](#)

June 3-7: Grace Memorial (Slidell) - 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Ages: Completed Kindergarten through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. 985-643-6017. [More Information.](#)

June 4-6: First (Covington) - 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Ages: Kindergarten through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. 985-892-2149. [More Information.](#)

June 17-21: SweetWater (Abita Springs) - 9:00-11:30 a.m. Ages: Completed Kindergarten through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. 985-630-4960. [More Information.](#)

June 19-21: Natalbany (Natalbany) - 5:30-8:00 p.m. Theme: Start the Party: Celebrate the Good News. 985-662-3204.

June 24-28: First (Pearl River) - 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Ages: 4 years old by 9/30 through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. 985-863-3363.

July 7-11: First (Slidell) - 5:30-8:00 p.m. Ages: Completed PreK 4s to 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. Ages: 985-643-3456.

July 7-11: Bedico (Ponchatoula) - 6:00-8:30 p.m. Ages: PreK (4 & 5 year olds) through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach. 985-845-3417. [More Information.](#)

July 15-19: New Beulah (Hammond) - 5:30-8:00 p.m. Ages: PreK through 6th grade. Theme: Breaker Rock Beach.

Annual Meeting

Monday, October 7

More Details to Come

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

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 6 @ 10 a.m.
Location to be Announced

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.

Northshore Church News



• **Redemption (Lacombe)** will host the Remind Pastors' Conference on August 12-13. Keynote speaker is Dr. Bryan Chapell, Pastor Emeritus of the Historic Grace Presbyterian Church and President Emeritus of Covenant Theological Seminary. He now leads the Administrative Committee of

the Presbyterian Church in America. Dr. Chapell is most known for his book, *Christ Centered Preaching*. The heart and purpose behind this conference is for men who serve as pastors to be *reminded* of the commands that Jesus gave Peter in John 21. His instructions were to *Feed the sheep, Shepherd the sheep, and Follow Him*. As pastors, it is often easy to allow other things to cloud our vision and distract us from these primary objectives. Our prayer is that through biblical teaching, breakout sessions, worship, prayer, and fellowship, each pastor will leave the *Remind Conference* refreshed and ready to *Feed, Shepherd, and Follow* upon returning to his church and home. Cost is \$45. For more info and to register go to www.remindconference.org. Contact: 985-882-5682 (church office) or remind@rclacombe.org. Byron Brown is pastor.

• **Ridge Memorial (Slidell)** announces the National Graduation of Slidell Baptist Seminary will be held on Sunday night, June 2, at Ridge Memorial Baptist Church. Pastor Paul Dabdoub said, "This year looks like one of the largest graduating classes since the school was established in 1994. Graduates are coming from as far north as New Castle, Delaware, and Pawtucket, Rhode Island, as far west as Arizona and as far east as North Carolina, Maryland, Mississippi, and Florida. Many will graduate from our own state of Louisiana. We are looking forward to handing them their degree that night that they have earned. We want to invite everyone to come and be part of this great event from the Northshore Baptist Association. The address is Ridge Memorial Baptist Church 55115 Apple Pie Ridge Road, Slidell, LA 70461."

• **Woodland Park (Hammond)** is in search of an interim worship leader for their contemporary worship service. For a job description contact the church office at 985-345-4012 or woodlandparkonline@gmail.com.

• **Bedico (Ponchatoula)** Summer Activities . . . Family Fun Fellowship on Wednesday nights during the summer with Family Bible Studies and fun activities. Go to www.bedicobaptist.org for more information on all summer activities. Pastor is Jonathan Gers.

• **SweetWater (Abita Springs)** co-pastor Jacob Wubben and Taylor Wright were married on June 1 in Starkville, Mississippi. Ken Schroeder is pastor.

• **Jerusalem (Hammond)** is in search of a pastor. The position is full time. Resumes may be sent to Jerusalem Baptist Church, 11109 Jerusalem Church Road, Hammond, LA 70403 or emailed to accounting@jbcpc.org.

• **First (Covington) Adults 55+ Summer Celebration** featuring Kenny Evans of the American Oldies Show, Pigeon Forge, TN, will be Tuesday, June 18, at 10 a.m. in the worship center. Cost is \$15, payable at the door, and lunch is included. Online registration is required at www.fbccov.org/adults-55. The deadline to register or cancel is noon, Friday, June 14. Note: The church is required to pay the caterer for all who are registered by the deadline so please contact the church by the deadline if you must cancel. We hope adults 55+ will join us for this fun celebration. Waylon Bailey is pastor.

• **First (Ponchatoula)** will have their Annual Patriotic Celebration 2024 on Sunday, June 23, at 8:15 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. There will be patriotic music, a tribute to the armed forces, and a message of encouragement and hope. Everyone is invited. Chip Vickers is music pastor and David Cranford is senior pastor.

• **First (Slidell) Kids Kamp Summer Day Camp** is planned for June 3-July 19 for ages 2 to 13 years old. Parents can pick what weeks and days they would like their children to attend. Go to www.fbcslidell.org/kids-camp for registration information. The Adults 55+ group will attend the Summer Celebration at FBC Covington on Tuesday, June 18, at 10 a.m. Monthly lunches will resume on the last Friday of the month in August. Pastor is Casey Stark.

Welcome Pastors & Staff



Jonathan & Brittney Gers & Family

Jonathan Gers
Pastor
Bedico, Ponchatoula

ShoreLines

By Don Pucik

Associational Mission Strategist

On a Saturday afternoon during the month of August 1806, five young men from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, met together to pray near a grove of maple trees north of the campus. As a thunderstorm rolled in overhead, lightning and rain forced the students to run and take shelter in a haystack. As the storm raged, the students prayed that God would send them across the seas to share the good news of Jesus Christ with a lost world. God heard their prayer. Six years later, the first missionaries from America set sail for foreign lands.

The leader of the Haystack Prayer Meeting was Samuel J. Mills, Jr. Born in 1783, Samuel grew up in a minister's home in Torrington, Connecticut, the youngest of four living children born to Samuel and Esther Mills. His father, Samuel Mills, Sr., pastored the same church for 64 years.

Prayers for revival—for God to make His presence real to His people—were common throughout New England in the 1790's. In 1798, revival broke out in Connecticut and Massachusetts, affecting over 150 churches. In less than 24 months, the membership rolls of the 30 village churches in northern Connecticut grew by over 1,700 converts. Samuel Mills witnessed the impact of that revival.

In 1806, Mills entered the all-male Williams College at 23. Like many colleges in the 1790s, the spiritual and moral conditions at the school were tough for Christians. Believers were often ridiculed and ostracized from the social life of the campus. The French Revolution and Enlightenment ideals ushered in a wave of skepticism towards God and the Bible. Several church-based colleges completely lost their theological moorings. One pastor wrote, "*It seemed as if God had almost entirely withdrawn His gracious influence. We were left to mourn an absent God, barren ordinances, an unsuccessful Gospel, and cold hearts.*"

In 1805, revival broke out at the congregational church in Williamstown pastored by Seth Swift, profoundly affecting several students, including a junior named Algernon Bailey. Bailey was repeatedly threatened and harassed by his fellow students for his faith, but his patient endurance only served to draw other students to Christ. The revival spread from the church to the campus.

By the summer of 1806, Mills and others met twice weekly for prayer and Bible study. Usually, a dozen or so students would attend the meetings. But on one sweltering Saturday in August, Mills was joined by a childhood friend, Harvey Loomis, and three others: James Richards, Francis Robbins, and Byram Green.

Years later, Byram Green recalled that it was during this meeting that Mills first proposed that, as students, they could be the first to carry the Gospel to Asia and the Middle East. He writes, "*We first went to the grove, expecting to hold our prayer meeting there, but a dark cloud was rising in the west, and it soon began to thunder and lightning, and we left the grove and went under the haystack to protect us from the approaching storm... The subject of conversation under the stack, before and during the shower, was the moral darkness of Asia. Mills proposed to send the gospel to that dark and heathen land; and said that we could do it if we would.*"

In 1810, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) was launched in response to a petition for assistance from Mills and his prayer partners, now students at Andover Theological Seminary. The ABCFM was the first Christian ministry in the United States devoted to sending missionaries overseas.

On February 12, 1812, the first missionaries from America set sail for India. On board that ship, the missionary roster included Adoniram Judson and Luther Rice, who would become founders of the modern missionary movement among Baptists. Samuel Mills became a missionary promoter and statesman throughout the United States. He conducted two missionary surveys of the Mississippi River, including the western territories belonging to the young United States. He helped start a training school for internationals, American Indians, free slaves, and Polynesians. He helped organize the American Bible Society in 1816. He died in 1818 on a return voyage from a mission trip to West Africa. Samuel Mills was 35 years old. He never married.

Why did it happen? What caused the explosion of American interest in global evangelism and missions after 1810? Was it the students under the haystack? Not quite.

It was a few people in the presence of God.

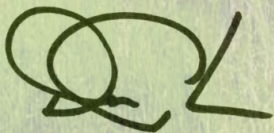
What happened to those students who completely sold out to God in the summer of 1806 was simply this: they experienced God's presence. In God's presence, the students at the haystack took personal responsibility for the lost souls of their generation.

I believe that our most significant challenge in the Northshore is embracing the responsibility of carrying out the Great Commission in our communities. If we don't take the gospel to every man, woman, boy, and girl living within the reach of our churches... then who will? And how can we awaken to that precious, eternal assignment?

It happens when we carve out time to draw near to Him in prayer. He promises to draw near to us in return (James 4:8). In His Presence, we encounter God's heartbeat for lost souls (Isaiah 6:8), and our hearts begin to align with His! (Matthew 9:36)



Don Pucik




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.

	Mar-Apr	YTD		Mar-Apr	YTD		Mar-Apr	YTD
Albany First	950.65	2,276.31	Killian First	-0-	-0-	Wardline	500.00	1,700.00
Antioch	14.97	60.52	Lee Hill	-0-	-0-	Westside	1,425.63	2,848.46
Bayou	100.00	250.00	Lee Valley	-0-	-0-	Woodhaven	128.00	237.00
Bedico	1,061.00	3,718.00	Life	-0-	-0-	Woodland	-0-	1,062.47
Bethlehem	1,452.13	2,703.59	Lighthouse	-0-	-0-	Woodland Park	2,080.22	4,068.37
Blood River	817.38	1,470.70	Loranger	1,315.38	3,364.96	TOTAL	42,999.66	92,063.47
Bogue Falaya	365.87	365.87	Manchac	-0-	-0-			
Calvary	100.00	200.00	Midway	-0-	-0-	Expenditures	40,923.87	80,816.94
Celebration (Cov/Mand)	250.00	1,000.00	Millville	-0-	-0-	Church Receipts	42,999.66	92,063.47
Celebration (Slidell)	250.00	1,000.00	Mt. Calvary	57.60	135.86	Additional Income	-0-	-0-
Coburn	-0-	-0-	Natalbany	631.72	1,261.09	Balance		157,678.86
Collins Blvd.	-0-	150.00	New Beginning	300.00	300.00	Designated Accounts		921,306.57
Cornerstone (watchcare)	-0-	-0-	New Beulah	262.98	262.98			
Countryside	-0-	-0-	New Hope	-0-	-0-			
Covenant	75.00	375.00	New Life Community	250.00	500.00			
Creekside	-0-	300.00	New Zion	-0-	50.00			
Cristo para Todos	-0-	-0-	Northshore	2,000.00	4,000.00			
Crossbrand	-0-	-0-	Northside	592.23	1,013.28			
Crossgate	-0-	50.00	Old Zion Hill	844.31	1,707.69			
Crossroads	1,009.16	2,018.32	Ponchatoula's First	4,082.23	7,174.99			
Ebenezer	351.34	883.57	Red Bluff	-0-	608.65			
Emmaus	-0-	-0-	Redemption, Lacombe	200.00	500.00			
Evans Creek	-0-	349.98	Redemption Christian	-0-	-0-			
First, Covington	5,833.34	11,666.68	Ridge Memorial	-0-	50.00			
First, Folsom	1,531.40	3,488.66	River Fellowship	579.43	1,073.72			
First, Hammond	-0-	-0-	Serenity	249.95	485.60			
First, Independence	200.00	400.00	Springville	150.34	293.04			
First, Madisonville	-0-	-0-	Still Water	-0-	-0-			
First, Mandeville	2,500.00	5,000.00	SweetWater	273.33	430.16			
First, Pearl River	1,082.47	2,444.44	Tammany Hills	762.93	1,075.12			
First, Slidell	1,347.00	2,639.34	The Bridge	200.00	400.00			
First, Springfield	234.54	368.45	Thompson Road	578.70	1,074.28			
First, Tickfaw	-0-	-0-	Trinity	956.00	2,254.00			
French Corner	182.22	783.94	True Life	100.00	300.00			
Grace Community	305.00	305.00	Victory	-0-	-0-			
Grace Fellowship	165.48	481.06						
Grace Hispanic	-0-	-0-						
Grace Memorial	2,166.00	4,450.00						
Greater St. James	-0-	-0-						
Hebron	600.00	1,200.00						
Iglesia Agua Viva	-0-	-0-						
Iglesia Buenas Nuevas	147.78	362.08						
Iglesia Cristo Redentor	200.00	400.00						
Immanuel	85.86	356.33						
Jerusalem	1,100.09	2,313.91						



DEADLINE FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER: July 15, 2024

SBC Annual Meeting & Pastors Conference



June 9-12, 2024
 Indianapolis, Indiana

Join us at the Indiana Convention Center for four days of equipping, and inspiration. With nearly 200 ancillary meetings, events, and gatherings throughout the week, you'll connect with leaders from around the country to be encouraged, equipped and mobilized for Kingdom work.

[More Information/Registration/Hotels](#)

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