

## Near and Far

A Newsletter for Bienville and Webster-Claiborne Baptist Associations

### **PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS**

Randy R. Hales, Director of Missions

March News



Dr. Randy R. Hales, DOM Phone: (318) 377-3005 DOM's Cell Phone: 318-518-8297 E-mail: missioncenter@gmail.com Website: www.WCBcenter.com

The Bone Chapel, pictured here, is in Evore, Portugal. Back in the 16th Century thousands of skeletons were



used to build this chapel. The monks who donated their bones were making a statement about the certainty of death. A poem at the entrance asks people to enter and contemplate the

fact that one day they would end up like these monks, a pile of bones. The humorous poem ends by saying the longer you linger contem-

plating the bones, the closer you are to joining them. Time marches on and death awaits all!

Life ends in death. What then? Our world is dead and dying spiritually without Christ. It seems that in these last days no one is contemplating the fact that one day they will die and stand before God.

Ezekiel 37 describes a weird vision that the prophet experienced. He saw a valley full of skeletons bleached by the sun that were torn apart and scattered across the valley floor. This was a dead army, defeated, dried up, forgotten. God asked, "Can these live again?" Ezekiel answered that God could do what He wanted to do. God told Ezekiel to preach to the bones and they became flesh and blood. With more preaching, the Spirit of God entered them and they lived, a mighty army devoted to God!

We know that this is a prophesy of the future of Israel and Judah who had been defeated and carried into exile. The Word of God would do a miracle and restore them. We need to understand God can do the same with us. A nation of spiritually dead people can be made alive in Christ and can become devoted servants of God. This includes our churches, communities, and personal lives. When the Word of God is proclaimed and absorbed, transformation occurs.

We are hearing rumors of revival fires burning across our nation and our world. I pray that those fires burn here where I live. I know that God's Word can bring it about. Wouldn't you like to see the dead revived? Wouldn't you like to see God's Spirit revitalizing broken defeated lives? It can happen if we, like Ezekiel, faithfully proclaim God's Word and trust in Him for true life. Please pray for revival to sweep our world. Pray that you can experience it yourself and be a part of a great awakening.

Bienville Men & Boy's Rally Thursday April 6th

Kyle Williams will be speaking, so don't miss this chance to continue a 61 year tradition!!!

Location TBA



Encontro Portugal



Our local Encontro Portugal Mission Team met online with our partners to discuss the upcoming Easter trip. We ask that you pray. If you feel led to join us financially, your gifts are welcome.

Pictured on "FaceTime Call" was Dr. Johnny Presley from Florida and Bethany Sharp from Lisbon. In person with me were Rev. Jerry and Sandra Martin and Dr. Randy Brown.

### Mission Corner

Camp Harris' roof is finished but there is a lot more that needs to be done. Thank you to those who have donated. With 1/3 of our churches donating we are 1/3 of the way to our goal. We need everyone of our associational churches to consider giving to the Harris New Day Building Fund.

Our short term loan is paid off and our gym roof is paid off. We will now turn our attention to the interior replacing the gym floor, around \$75,000 and then move on to the pool. Will you help us finish the interior of the activity building? If you are giving to the New Day Fund, please continue. If your church has not been giving, would you consider giving over a three year period to help us revitalize our camp?

Easter Mission Trip to
Lisbon Portugal March
30-April 9 to partner with
the Encontro Portugal Mission in their Easter Outreach events. Pray for our
team consisting of Dr.
Johnny Presley (our Portuguese speaker from Florida), Jerry and Sandra
Martin from Pine Grove,
Dr. Randy Brown from
Beech Springs, and Randy
Hales.



Sharp family, Lisbon, Portugal

Ezekiel 37:10, "So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army."

### **STAFF NEEDS**

Rocky Springs—Youth Director New Bethel—Bi-Vo Pastor Magnolia, Saline—Pastor FBC, Ringgold—Pastor Unity, Cotton Valley—Music Minister

Brother Randy has training materials for Minister-Search Committees.

Please send resumes to the associational office or direct to the church. Also send notices of staff vacancies you want us to announce.

IRS mileage rate is 65.5 cents a mile beginning January 1. Make sure your minis-

ters are properly reimbursed for using their vehicles to do your ministry.





Mar 26, Beech Springs, Minden April 23, FBC Haynesville

We can help your students participate with other groups and share ideas with youth leaders.

BWC Leader, Aaron Coffey

See BWC Youth Network on Facebook for schedules and events.

# GRANBERRY COUNSELING CENTER Help for Today Hope for Tomorrow

A ministry of the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries Amy Butler, LPC, LMFT



Missions & Ministry Center 1408 Sibley Rd. Minden, LA 71055 Call 773-5539 for an appointment.

### March

26 BWC Youth Network, Beech Springs, Minden30-April 9 Easter Portugal Mission Trip

### Apri

- 1 Camp Harris 4-Person Golf Scramble, Arcadia
- 6 Bienville Men & Boy's Rally, More details coming soon
- 14-16 Camp Harris, Jesus Lighting up Springtime
- 23 BWC Youth Network, FBC Haynesville
- 24 11 AM Webster-Claiborne Executive Board Meeting6PM Bienville Executive Board

Visit our website at WCBcenter.com for updates.

### **Camp Harris Camp Dates:**

April 14-16 Youth Spring Forward Camp

June 5-9 Mission Camp for Adults & Children

June 11-14 Girls Camp

June 14-17 Boys Camp

June 19-22 Youth Camp

July 3-6 Children's Camp

July 24-27 Kids Camp

Sign Up Now!!!!!

### "Kingdom Builders"

if interested in using your carpentry skills in ministry.
Call or text Randy Ray
318-312-0884 or email at rray1.ch@gmail.com

### Remember

The Party Trailer is available for your events.. Call the office to reserve at 318-377-3005. Cost is \$25.00 to help with maintenance of the trailer.

### It's a New Day Update

Goal \$600,000 Raised \$196,984.98



Balance in LBF New Life Center account \$26,759.00 New Roof is finished with the help of a loan, still needing donations for completion of much needed projects!

318-927-3706

Email info@harrisbaptistcamp.com

2800 Camp Harris Rd. Minden, LA 71055

### Randy Ward, Truck-Stop Chaplain Bible Distribution 2023



### **Bible Distribution**

Love's 32

Dixie Inn

Total Bibles 83

If you would like to donate funds for this ministry, call us at the Mission Center.



Like us on Facebook & Instagram

We offer free and confidential services in a safe and non-judgmental setting all at no cost to our patients. We listen and we care.

402 Broadway St., Minden, LA 71055 PO Box 579, Minden, LA 71058-0579 Phone 318-639-0907 Text 318-707-9237 Fax 318-299-3823 Email: info@nwlpcc.org

Seedswomenscenter.com

Services offered: Trained & Licensed Medical Staff, Free Pregnancy Testing, Nurse Consultation, Free Ultrasound, Prenatal Care, Reproductive Loss Recovery, Parenting Classes, Community Referrals, Physician Referrals

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#### **Executive Board Members**

Webster-Claiborne

Jennifer Kennedy Michael Sanders John Franklin

Lewis Mann

Bienville

Austin Hand Mike Towns Carl Bolton



#### CAMPS

April 14-16 Youth Spring Forward Camp June 5-9 Mission Camp for Adults & Children

June 11-14 Girls Camp June 14-17 Boys Camp Patrick Blanchard June 19-22 Youth Camp July 3-6 Children's Camp July 24-27 Kids Camp Sign Up Now!!!!!



MINISTRIES

### **Rolling Hills Ministries**

David Abernathy, Director

Phone: 318-251-0065

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Website: www.rollinghillsministries.com

#### **Executive Board Members**

Webster-Claiborne

Jeff Tinsley Wayne Hatfield Steven Beard

**Bienville** 

Preston Young Steve Pyle Michelle Pyles



### LA TECH BCM

Kevin Inman, Director 318 - 255-1982 Cell: 680-0534 801 W Alabama Ave. Ruston, LA 71270

### **Executive Board Members**

Webster-Claiborne

Aaron Coffee Chris Stevens Harold Johnson

Bienville

Stanley Foster J.T. Pyles **Bruce Bratton** 

Rolling Hills Drop Off Building is located behind our Mission Center. We accept anything except for mattresses. The building has a lock. You can call the number posted on the door 24 hours a day to get the combination. Thank you for your gifts.

### First Annual Camp Harris 4-Person **Golf Scramble Fundraiser**

Saturday, April 1, 2023

**Trails End Golf Course** 400 Trails End Rd Arcadia, LA 71001 (318) 263-7420

**Remit to: Harris Baptist Assembly Camp** 2800 Harris Rd Minden, LA 71055

**Contact Information** 

(318) 927-3706

(318) 455-5012 Camp Manager (Harry O'Brown)

(318) 458-6100 Tournament Director (Michael Sanders)

Our church is happy to sponsor a Tee Box for Camp Harris at \$500 and will send a four person team on April 1. (The \$500 includes the team fee.)

Our church is happy to sponsor a Tee Box for Camp Harris at \$500, but will not be sending a team for the tournament.

\_ Our church is unable to sponsor a Tee Box, but would like to make a donation to Camp Harris through this event.





**Easter Portugal Mission Trip** 

Our "Encounter (Encontro) Portugal" team will be working with the Encontro Church Plant in Lisbon. Pictured is a snapshot of Lisbon and the Excontro Team. What can you do to undergird the team? Pray for travel, health, and open doors. Give! The trip will cost each person around \$2400. Our association will be offsetting some of that, but supplies, housing, and flights are expensive. If you would like to donate toward the trip, just let me know. We would love for you to partner with us. We are representing Christ and His family from Bienville and Webster-Claiborne Baptist associations. Would you pray about joining the team next year? Perhaps you or someone in your church feels led to be part of a mission experience overseas. Each year I will be leading a team the week prior to Easter.

Blessings, Bro. Randy

