

Near and Far

A Newsletter for Bienville and Webster-Claiborne Baptist Associations



PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS

Randy R. Hales, Director of Missions

April News



Dr. Randy R. Hales, DOM

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Our mission team in Portugal carried out 10 different block parties/egg hunts with approximately 400 kids. Our mission partners received over numerous responses of prospects interested in attending future events. Hundreds of people viewed the Facebook adds, and many others gave contact information for future follow up. The weather was horrible, first time this has ever happened, so numbers were much less. Practically every event planned outside in the parks had to be held in small indoor spaces. In spite of this, the results were positive, our team rose to the occasion and adapted. We are thankful to all who donated supplies, prayers, and finances. Next year the Easter Mission Trip will be April 10-20, 2025. Interested? Let me know, so we can put you on the contact list. The association scholarship this year paid for housing, supplies, fuel, and some food for the team. Bless you for caring for the Portuguese people. Thank you for providing the yearly Portugal Scholarship in our name that makes the trip possible.

As I write this, I am floating in a boat in St. Paul's Bay in Malta, the traditional spot where Paul's shipwrecked in the book of Acts. We finished our Portugal mission, and I am vacationing with our family. Johnny and Donna from Alabama church returned to the states Sunday. Ron and Alana from FBC Minden remained in country so they could visit their Italy family. I will be returning on April 9th.

My take-a-way idea this year is the unwavering dedication of our Missionaries. We met missionaries from Asian countries that live under constant persecution and suffering, yet their service never wavers. We met many missionaries from Brazil that are planting churches in Europe. The sacrifice of these servants is humbling. They really cause me to inspect my own life and commitment and willingness to sacrifice for the Lord.

Another take-a-way is that we should be thankful for our Southern Baptist Missions, for our missionaries receive support that no others do. The networking, prayer and financial support, and short-term support teams like our team from our associational churches are amazing. Many of the missionaries from other groups were amazed of our support of our missionaries and their/our mission. Thank you for keeping the Kingdom work your work. As I approach retirement I am reminded over and over how blessed I've been to have served these 23 years with you.

Bro. Randy

Insurance Crisis: Please lead your church to take action to help Louisiana Baptists and other non-profits who are facing this crisis.

Many of you have experienced the recent insurance problems facing our state. Camp Harris, my office, and several churches had their insurance canceled last year and scrambled to find someone to write us. Many more will experience the same soon. As a result there is basically only one carrier in the state that provides church coverage and their rates are spiraling upward. The deductions and costs for the new policies are making many to question if they can afford insurance.

Due to this crisis, Dr. Horn, our Louisiana Baptist Director, initiated an effort with other denominations and other non-profit institutions to petition the state of Louisiana to allow an alternative. This alternative was granted and we have a year to get information together to design a self funded program. Gallagher insurance that specialize in non-profits is being used to gather information.

Please help your fellow churches to gather data. By submitting data you are not making a commitment or signing up for anything. The information will be used to build information that will make it possible for alternative policies to be offered to non-profits. To gather this information a simple request form is available. You have the option to go to your present carrier to get the information or to give permission to Gallagher to get it for you. **Even if you don't think you need an alternative insurance right now, please submit the information anyway. Our crisis is only going to get worse and one day you may want that alternative.**

You can go to this site for the form. We can make a copy of the form if you need.

<https://louisianabaptists.org/insurance>.

Party Trailer Updated

The Camp Harris crew has been working hard to update and clean out our party trailer. We appreciate them very much!! A lot of items were broken or had missing pieces. We are ordering new games and organizing the placement. With these updates we will have a few new rules. **To reserve the trailers we will need a \$25 deposit before we can hold it for your church. We will also be emailing a contract that will need to be signed before the lock code will be given out.** Please help us keep our trailer neat and tidy. We are very proud of these updates!

CAMP HARRIS UPDATE:

Hey y'all, we are so excited for this new year coming up. We have great things lined up for our Summer Camps, and different retreats throughout the year. We are doing our best to get things updated and fixed. However, during the Dec and Jan months we struggled at Camp Harris. We have been busy getting some much-needed updates done during the down months, but it flatlined the budget not having groups in. Everyone is astounded when they find out how much it takes a month to just keep Camp Harris open and the added cost of electricity is increasing. The only way we can continue the Kingdom Work that we do here is by the generosity of those who have been touched by and love Camp Harris, and our church partners. For That, We Thank You. To everyone who gives and prays and loves on Camp Harris. We can't do this alone; it takes the whole of the Kingdom. We want to get so much more done, so this is truly a camp you can be proud of. So, we need your help again just to keep the ball rolling. Come to our website and see how you can partner with Camp Harris in doing the Kingdom Work God has given us all. Come, and be a Camp Harris Hero. We need Your support, both in prayer, donations, and financial support.

Camp Harris Currently has registration open for all camps and retreats coming up. Two new retreats to look for on harrismissionscamp.com is the Youth Spring Retreat in April, and the Family Camp coming up in March! Be looking for info on our Spring Golf Tournament too. If you have any potential Summer Staffers or people of interest have them apply today. harrismissionscamp.com

Our **AMS/DOM Search Committee** is presently prayerfully considering resumes. Pray for them as they work.

DON'T MISS THIS!!!!

Bienville Men and Boys Yearly Fellowship is scheduled April 4th at the Bienville Gym. Greg Dunn will bring the message and Wayne Bridges will provide music. This is always a big event that brings our churches together.

STAFF NEEDS

Alabama—Pastor
 Rocky Springs—Youth Director
 Unity, Cotton Valley—Music Minister
 FBC Doyline—Pastor
 Bistineau—Pastor
 Pilgrims Rest—Pastor
 FBC, Haynesville—Pastor
 Central, Springhill—Youth Pastor, Bi-Vo
 Heflin—Youth Pastor, PT

*** DOM/AMS—**
 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.

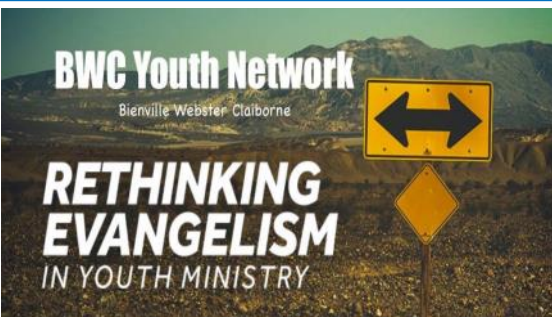
DOM/AMS Search

* Randy Hales announced his retirement on or before June 1, 2024. The search committee has been meeting. Please be in prayer for them and ask God to guide them to the perfect person!

“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



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

BWC Leader, Aaron Coffey

FBC Haynesville, April 21st

Join us!

See BWC Youth Network on Facebook for schedules and events.

UPDATES CAN BE FOUND @ WBCENTER.COM

April

- 4 Bienville Men & Boys Rally
- 12-13 Rolling Hills Disaster Relief Training, Temple BC, Ruston
- 21 BWC Youth Network, FBC Haynesville
- 22 Executive Board, Webster-Claiborne 10:45 AM MMC

Bienville, 6PM Jamestown

- 26 Camp Harris Fourth Weekend Fellowship, Fish Fry

May

- 24 Camp Harris Fourth Weekend Fellowship, Crawfish

Spring is coming, let the flowers testify of your worth to Christ.

Luke 12:27 “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith!



Men and Women of Courage are sponsoring a raffle for a Glock 19 Pistol. All proceeds will go to Camp Harris and tickets are \$10. You can get with Chris Plants, Louis Mann or Camp Harris.
 318-927-3706

**2ND ANNUAL
 "CAMP HARRIS 4-PERSON SCRAMBLE"
 GOLF TOURNAMENT**

27 APRIL 2023, 8AM
 @ AT TRAILS END GOLF COURSE
 400 TRAILS END RD, ARCADIA, LA

Grand PRIZE \$600



(2-PERSON SCRAMBLE AFTER LUNCH W/ GRAND PRIZE OF \$200.00)

Get ready for your events

Reserve our Party Trailer

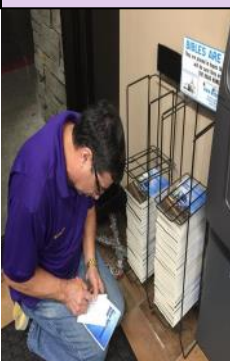
Call the office to reserve at
 318-377-3005.

Don't Forget the cost is \$25.00

We have made some updates thanks to Harry and Camp Harris staff!!!

Randy Ward, Truck-Stop Chaplain

Bible Distribution 2024
 20,000 bibles distributed and counting!!!



Bible Distribution

Love's	122
Dixie Inn	95
Total Bibles	217

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



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
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 Minden, LA 71055



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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.

Rolling Hills Natchitoches has opened at 400 University Pkwy across from the college.



Guiding Grandchildren With Godly Principles



Master Life Coach Training Institute offers a 16-part online course to equip grandparents (and parents, too) with the essential tools of Christian life coaching. This course empowers you to engage your grandchildren in a positive and impactful way, countering the potentially harmful effects of the modern era.



MASTER LIFE COACH TRAINING INSTITUTE
Contact Rodney Love
469-212-3733



Your Cooperative Missions at work. Support your local associations and the SBC/LBC through prayer and giving. The world awaits!



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

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