



A 2025 Publication of



# The Tidings



## *A Word from Bro. Marty*

The question is often asked: Is VBS worth having in our church? Families are busy with summer activities. VBS preparation requires hours, weeks, even months. People in our churches are exhausted by the end of the week. Not to mention the fact, that walls are often scuffed up, drinks are spilled on the new carpet, and the list goes on and on. Some might even be tempted to say: VBS is a thing of the past, it just doesn't work today.

Over the past several weeks, I have had the opportunity to visit several of our churches during VBS, and plan to visit others as my schedule allows. I have been in churches with 25 children in VBS, and I have been in churches with a couple hundred. Three things I hear consistently from our churches, regardless of the number of children attending. One, we have children attending that usually do not come to church. Two, children are hearing the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Three, children are coming to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Regardless of the number you have attending, VBS is still one of the greatest, if not the greatest, evangelism and outreach tools we have in our churches. You will never know this side of heaven the impact VBS has on the Kingdom. Seeds are sown into the hearts and minds of children in the church, as well as families outside the church that come only that one week out of the year.

Is VBS worth having in your church? Is it worth all the time, effort, and exhaustion? The answer is simple: **YES, YES, YES!**

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Director of Missions.

In Christ,  
Marty Black, DOM



*Thursday, July 17, 2025  
6:00 PM*

*at "The Depot" of First Baptist Church, Ruston  
211 West Railroad Avenue (next to the railroad tracks, downtown Ruston)*

*Come enjoy fellowship with others, a  
delicious meal, & words of encouragement.  
Mrs. Tessa Black, guest speaker.*

*Please RSVP by calling  
the Missions & Ministry Center at (318) 255-9030*

# Circle of Love Prayer Calendar

## June 29 - July 5

**Rock Corner BC** - Rev. Larry Bullock, Pastor  
824 Rock Corner Rd., Dubach, LA 71235  
**Beulah BC**—Rev. Adam Holloway, Pastor  
C/o 668 Beulah Church Rd., Farmerville, LA 71241

## July 13 - 19

**First Baptist Church, Simsboro** - Dr. Jason Cole, Pastor  
133 Tiger Drive, Simsboro, LA 71275  
**DaySpring Ministry** - Rev. Kenneth Weaver, Pastor  
3191 South Vienna St., Ruston, LA 71270

## July 27 - August 2

**New Prospect BC** - Rev. Marvin Winham, Pastor  
3438 Hwy. 167, Dubach, LA 71235  
**Calvary BC** - Rev. Bill Reid, Pastor  
5200 Hwy. 167, Ruston, LA 71270

## July 6 - July 12

**Emmanuel BC** - Rev. Paul Watts, Pastor  
1200 Farmerville Hwy., Ruston, LA 71270  
**Pine Grove BC** - Rev. Steve Barrett, Pastor  
P. O. Box 374, Bernice, LA 71222

## July 20 - 26

**Downsville BC** - No Pastor  
P. O. Box 87, Downsville, LA 71234  
**Spencer BC** - Rev. Mickey Manning, Pastor  
C/o 5796 Hwy. 143, Sterlington, LA 71280



## SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

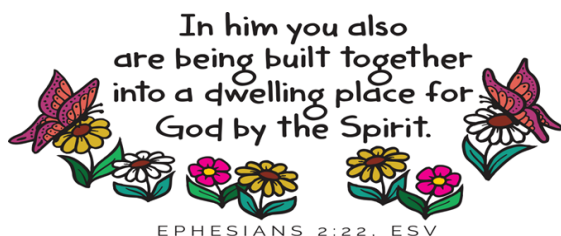
Lisa Allred	Rev. Caroll Holmes
Mary Ruth Allred	Rev. Bobby Kranz
Andrew Aswell	Rev. Mickey Manning
Mildred Brantley	Clay Mook
Rev. Harry Brown	Breck Owens
Hez Elkins	Rev. Paul Pearson
Imogene Frasier	Rev. Jeff Sanford
JoAnn Grafton	Ann Smith
Lynda Grafton	Rev. Jerry Whitman
Nell Grafton	Karla Wood

**Pray for our churches without pastors.**

## 135 Years of Ministry

Rev. Daniel Barnes, Pastor, and the Evergreen Baptist Church family invite you to join them as the church celebrates the 135th Homecoming Service on **July 27, 2025**. Services will begin at 10:30 AM with a concert performed by Sanctuary Quartet. Worship services will begin at 11:15 AM with a message by Dr. Jason Cole, guest speaker. A delicious meal will follow in the fellowship hall.

Evergreen Baptist Church is located at  
1380 Evergreen Road, Bernice, LA 71222



## ONE STEP HIGHER

Gospel group from First Baptist, Farmerville will sing at  
**Mt. Patrick Baptist Church**  
**Saturday, July 19th**  
**at 6 p.m.**

Mt. Patrick Baptist Church is located  
at 1232 Patrick Church Rd., Bernice, LA 71222.  
Come hear some great gospel music.

- 1 - **Budget Committee** meeting at the Missions & Ministry Center, 5:30 P.M.
- 3 - Spiritual Awakening Prayer meeting, 2 PM at the Missions & Ministry Center
- 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 6-11 - Concord Union Baptist Association MISSION TRIP **(Are you praying?)**
- 15 - **Building Operations** Committee meeting, 1:30 PM  
**Personnel** Committee meeting 3 PM  
**Both meetings at the M&M Center.**
- 16 - WMU North Region mtg, 10 AM at FBC, Marion
- 17 - Pastor's Wives Fellowship, 6 PM at The Depot of FBC, Ruston
- 24 - WMU South Region mtg, 10 AM at FBC, Farmerville.
- 24 - **Budget Committee** meeting 5 PM at the Missions & Ministry Center, 5 p.m.
- 28 - **CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE** (NOTE location change!) at Calvary Baptist Church, Ruston. Meal served at 6 PM; conferences afterwards.

**JULY 2025**  
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## JOB OPENINGS!



## COTTAGE PARENTS

(Full & part-time positions available in Monroe)

Please Call Dr. Perry Hancock or Susan Nolan at 318.343.2244



Concord Union Baptist Association  
**MISSION TRIP**  
**July 6 - 11, 2025**



Concord Union Baptist Association has partnered with Bayou Baptist Association in the Houma, Louisiana region of our state to work with the association and several churches to facilitate mission projects. Our mission trip this year is scheduled for July 6-11. We will be involved in light construction, VBS at First Baptist Church, Raceland; and, a Backyard Bible Club in the Chauvin Community. On Thursday our team will join forces with the local food ministry for a food distribution project also in the Chauvin Community.

You can play a vital role in this mission trip by serving as a prayer warrior for those who are going. These are some specific needs that we would ask you to pray for:

- \* **Pray** that GOD will go before our mission team and open doors that only HE can open.
- \* **Pray** for safety as our team members traveling to and from Houma and travel while serving in the area.
- \* **Pray** for Bro. Joe Arnold, Director of Missions for Bayou Baptist Association, who will guide our teams in the area.
- \* **Pray** for First Baptist Church, Raceland as they open their doors to children and families for VBS.  
 Pray for Pastor Willis Naquin and the church as they serve.
- \* **Pray** for Mike and Teri Mathena, who are now living in Chauvin and desire to serve the Lord in that community.  
 The Mathenas' and their small Bible study group will be our "boots on the ground" to get the word out about the Backyard Bible Club ahead of our arrival.
- \* **Pray** for safety as our construction team works with tools in the heat of the day.

*Concord Union Baptist Association*

**CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE**

**Monday, July 28, 2025**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Calvary Baptist Church, Ruston**



**PRAYER - *Rev. Craig James***  
**PASTORS - *Dr. Alan Miller***  
**YOUTH - *Zach Smith & Ben Walton***  
**CHILDREN - *Tonya Blanton***

**DEACONS - *Tim Post***  
**MUSIC - *Lynette Murphy***  
**CHURCH CLERKS - *Nancy Collie***  
**TREASURERS - *Tim Tettleton***

**SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTORS - *Kathy Kirk***

*A meal will be served and conferences will follow.*

*Please enlist your church leadership to participate and RSVP to the Missions & Ministry Center with the number from your church by July 22nd.*

**CRUSADE FOR CHRIST**

Junction City High School  
 Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)

Elm Street

**JULY 14,15,16**

**July 14th** \_\_\_\_\_ **7 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Bro. Phillip Farris, Pastor  
 Bethel Baptist Church, Lillie

**Worship Leader:** Bro. Ricky Houck  
 Holmesville Baptist Church, Downsville

**July 15th** \_\_\_\_\_ **7 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Bro. Sye Duke, Pastor  
 Northwest Baptist Church, El Dorado

**Worship Leader:** Laren & Merle Frisby

**July 16th** \_\_\_\_\_ **7 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Bro. Ricky Ray, Evangelist  
 Camp Creek Baptist Church, Spearsville

**Worship Leader:** Sarah and Tommy King  
 and Ashlynn Cantrell

**Pastor/Staff Conference**

(10 AM)

**Executive Board**

(11 AM)

**August 12, 2025**

**Dean Baptist Church**

*2309 Hwy. 827, Marion, Louisiana*



North Region  
 July 16, 2024  
 10:00 AM  
 FBC Marion

South Region  
 July 24, 2025  
 10:00 AM  
 FBC Farmerville

## CONCORD UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

3481 Highway 33, Ruston, LA 71270  
P. O. Box 606, Ruston, LA 71273

**Dr. Marty Black,**  
*Director of Missions*

**New Email:**

dom@concordunionbaptistassociation.net

**Nancy Collie,**  
*Ministry Assistant*

**New Email:**

admin@concordunionbaptistassociation.net

Office Phone: (318) 255-9030

**Website:**

concordunionbaptistassociation.net

**Missions & Ministry Center**

**Office Hours: 8 AM - 4 PM**

**Monday thru Thursday; Closed Fridays**

### Granberry Counseling Centers

*a ministry of the Louisiana  
Baptist Children's Home*



**DENA M. MELNA,**  
**LPC**

**Serving Concord Union  
Baptist Association  
Missions and Ministry  
Center**

**Appointments are required.**

**SCHEDULE by calling**

**(318) 450-4660 or 1-877-345-7411**

**or via email: dena@lbch.org**



## CONCORD UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

**Downsville BC**

**Enterprise BC**

**Liberty BC\***

**Litro BC**

**Mineral Springs BC\***

**Mt. Tabor BC**

**Nazareth Hispanic\***

**Pleasant Hill, Farmerville**

**Spencer BC\***

**Weldon BC**

*\* Interim Pastor currently serving*

### Church Happenings:

**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, Ruston** has welcomed **DEE ALEXANDER** to serve as Minister of Music effective June 1, 2025.

### Pastors / Ministers / Staff Needed:

**Simboro First Baptist Church** is seeking a part-time individual to fill the BI vocational Minister of Music position. Resumes should be sent to the church address: 133 Tiger Drive, Simsboro, LA 71275.

**Hopewell Baptist Church, Spearsville** is seeking a pianist. Please contact Bro. Dewayne Ramsey (318) 620-8933, if interested.

**Mineral Springs Baptist Church, Dubach** is seeking a Pastor. Send resumes to: 118 Pea Ridge Road, Dubach, LA 71235 or email to [msbaptistlouisiana@gmail.com](mailto:msbaptistlouisiana@gmail.com).

**Pleasant Hill Baptist Church of Rocky Branch** is seeking a permanent bi-vocational pastor to serve in our small community. Parsonage is included. If interested, please email resume to [phbc1026721@gmail.com](mailto:phbc1026721@gmail.com) or contact Bro. Gary Chapman at 318-366-0540.

**First Baptist Church, Spearsville** is seeking a part time Youth Minister. Please contact Bro. Neil Everett@ [fbcspcarsville@yahoo.com](mailto:fbcspcarsville@yahoo.com)

**First Baptist Church, Ruston** is seeking a Full time YOUTH PASTOR, great opportunity leading a large youth ministry with lots of potential. Please send resume to Ed Colvin at [ed@fbcruston.org](mailto:ed@fbcruston.org) or [brenda@fbcruston.org](mailto:brenda@fbcruston.org).

**Paron Baptist Church, West Sterlington** is seeking a part-time WORSHIP LEADER. Resumes may be sent to [paronoffice676@gmail.com](mailto:paronoffice676@gmail.com).



P. O. BOX 606

RUSTON, LA 71273-0606

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