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VISIT US ON THE WEB!!!
www.acadia-association.org
www.mtolive-association.org
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**the road to heaven
is a one-way street**

2012 Evangelism Conferences

ACADIA ASSOCIATION:

February 12, 6:30 PM

Emmanuel BC, Eunice

Phillip Robinson, preaching,

pastor of Philadelphia BC, Deville

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION:

February 19, 6:00 PM gumbo, 6:30 service

Big Cane BC

Gary Hanberry, FBC LaRose, preaching

Brad Mount, leading Praise & Worship

**Pastors' Trip
To the Yucatan**

I will be taking several pastors to the Yucatan, May 25-30, to plan church mission trips. Several are already signed up. This is a great time to get out of the country and see the needs in other countries. We will be preaching in the churches and touring the rural areas where the need is so great. The focus of these trips is to encourage and train the pastors there, as well as meet the immediate needs of the people. You can use this trip to see if you want to take a group from your church. I really encourage you to try and go with us. This can be a life changing opportunity for you personally. The cost will be approximately \$700. We will be flying directly from Houston to Merida, Mexico (2 hour flight). Give me a call for more information. By the way, the Yucatan is safe!

Joint Associational News

Acadia, Louisiana & Mt. Olive Baptist Associations

Vol. 2, Issue 1

February 2012

FROM MY DESK TO YOURS



Pastors and Wives Retreats

We have been given another year by our wonderful, awesome God. To serve Him is a great blessing. My primary focus this time of year is ministry to Pastors and Wives. We have **two Pastors and Wives Retreats planned in the**

month of February. One for Acadia and Louisiana Associations at ABC camp and one for Mt. Olive Association at Dry Creek!

Guys, you and your wives need time to get away with other pastors and their wives to "let your hair down" and be open about ministry. These weekends are very important for you. You may say, I don't need that or I can't afford that. Well, your wives do need it even if you don't. And if you can't afford it, we can help you. Let me give you some details.

The **Acadia and Louisiana Association Retreat** will be held February 3rd and 4th at ABC camp. Steve and Roseanna James from Trinity Church in Lake Charles will be our guest hosts and leaders. There will be joint sessions, **wives only sessions**, and men only sessions. We will close with a question and answer

session with Steve and his wife. This will be a wonderful time of sharing and talking ministry. You don't want to miss it. The cost will be \$60 per couple which includes lodging and the Friday evening meal as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday. We will dismiss after lunch. If you wish to commute, the cost will be \$40 per couple. Please let me help you with the cost. Just call me. Call ABC to sign up (457-9047). We need you to commit by Wednesday February 1. The fee will be paid when you check in.

The **Mt. Olive, Beauregard, and Vernon Association Retreat will be held** February 24th and 25th at Dry Creek Camp. This retreat will feature various speakers including Tim Patrick, Gary Mitchell, E.J. Bradshaw and myself. It too will feature time for sharing and talking ministry. The cost will be \$87 per couple including meals and lodging, Friday evening meal, as well as Saturday's breakfast and lunch.

These two retreats are planned to help you. I promise you will be glad you came. Of course, you can go to either one or both if you so desire.

The success of these two retreats will be dependent upon your willingness to participate. Plan now to be there.

By the way...

Because of a mistake by the USPS, all of our December/January newsletters (with our Christmas greeting) were returned! It's been corrected but, even though it's belated, we still want to wish you a wonderful New Year as you walk it out with our Lord! Alan, Helen & Jan



Salary Package Information for the New Year

It's time to make sure your Salary Package is properly designated in the Church budget. For your tax benefit, having your salary package properly set up will save you money. Here are some pointers to help you.

- 1) Mileage is not part of your salary. You need to handle your mileage on a reimbursement basis. Mileage should be a separate budget item on the budget. You need to turn in your mileage each month and be reimbursed for actual mileage driving. Just getting a mileage check will not work. If you are just turning in your mileage on your taxes in April, then you are losing money and paying more taxes than you need to.
- 2) You Salary package should be divided up in the following manner. First set up your housing allowance. You **must** designate a part of your salary for housing. Housing expenses can include anything you spend taking care of your house no matter if it is a parsonage, rental or your personal home. Housing expenses include, mortgage interest, furniture purchases, lawn care, cleaning supplies, utilities, etc. The important thing is to set enough aside at the beginning of the year. This must be voted on by the church and recorded in the minutes of the church business meeting. Any of the housing expenses that you do not use will just become taxable income. You do not have to get reimbursement on housing, but you must be able to substantiate your housing expenses if you get audited. **Keep your receipts.** This is a major tax savings for you.
- 3) A library allowance can be set aside. You can get reimbursed for any literature that you normally pay for out of your pocket. Again this keeps you from paying taxes. But remember, any library allowance that you do not use is lost at the end of the year. Make sure you use all of this.
- 4) Insurance allowance. You can also set aside part of your salary for Medical, Life or Disability Insurance. The key here is that you must let the church write the check to these bills during the year. And again, if you do not use these funds you cannot take the balance.
- 5) The basic salary. This is what is left after the above set asides.

This process is very important for you and your church. Get this right and it will save you thousands!!! Give me a call if you need help. I will be glad to meet with you folks to help you with this. And by the way, **you should not receive a 1099. You should receive a W-2!!!!** If you already have been given a 1099 don't worry about it this year but we need to get that changed for next year. Many accountants will tell you that you get a 1099 but that is wrong. Most accountants don't understand ministerial tax law. This part of the law changed in the 70's and some are still issuing 1099. Again, I will be glad to help you with any of this.



For February

PASTORS AND WIVES RETREATS

Acadia and Louisiana:

When: February 3-4

Where: ABC Camp

Time: 6:30 Friday

through

12:15 Saturday

(See more information on page 1)

Mt. Olive

When: February 24-25

Where: Dry Creek Camp

Time: 4:00 Friday

Through

1:00 Saturday

(See more information on page 1)

See You There!

EVENTS TO REMEMBER

MT. OLIVE ASSOCIATION

February 2012

13	Men's Rally	6:00 p.m.	Glenmora
20	Worship Rally	6:00 p.m.	Trinity, Oakdale
24-25	Bi-Vo Pastors & Wives Retreat	4:00 Fri-1:00 Sat	Dry Creek

ACADIA ASSOCIATION

February 2012

3-4	Pastors/Wives Retreat		ABC
4	Kaleidoscope	8:00-4:00 p.m.	FBC Pineville
7	Minister's Valentine Fellowship	6:00 p.m.	Chef Roy's
10-11	Collegiate Evangelism Conf.	8-10 pm Fri. 10-7:30 pm Sat.	LBC, Pineville
<small>(For more information go to www.lbc.org/cec)</small>			
12	Evangelism Rally	6:00 p.m.	Emmanuel, Eunice
17-18	Disaster Relief Training	8:00 am Friday- 3:00 pm Saturday	Dry Creek
24-25	LA Baptist Church Music & Drama Festival	Noon Fri.-3:00 Sat.	Calvary, Alex.
27-28	Mardi Gras Youth Retreat	Sunday, 3:00 PM- Tuesday, 3:00 PM	ABC

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION

February 2012

3-4	Pastors/Wives Retreat		ABC
4	Kaleidoscope	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	FBC Pineville
6	Executive Board Mtg	6:00 PM	Hessmer
17-18	Disaster Relief Training	8:00 AM Fri - 3:00 PM Sat	Dry Creek
18	WMU	10- 12 Noon	The Church @ Marksville
19	Evangelism Rally Gary Handberry and Brad Mount	6:00 PM gumbo 6:30 PM service	Big Cane
27-28	Mardi Gras Youth Retreat	Sunday, 3:00 PM Tuesday, 3:00 PM	ABC