

Joint Associational News

Acadia, Louisiana & Mt. Olive Baptist Associations

Vol. 1, Issue 7

September



FROM MY DESK TO YOURS

“CROSSOVER CROWLEY” READY FOR TRAINING SEPTEMBER 17TH

MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE FOR ASSOCIATION OFFICE

PROGRESSIVE REVIVALS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

GEARING UP FOR FALL ANNUAL MEETINGS

REAP REVIVALS WITH BRO. PAUL CHERRY IN FEBRUARY

MOWATA CHURCH PLANT ENDS SEASON WITH 25 IN ATTENDANCE

NEW HISPANIC WORK OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR ASSOCIATIONS

CHURCH SPONSORS NEEDED FOR CHURCH PLANTS

“CROSSOVER CROWLEY”

Putting the “**Cross Over Crowley at the “Rice Festival”** is a major evangelistic thrust and opportunity for all three associations. Victor Benavides, the SBC Crossover specialist visited with us August 25th for an overview of the Crossover process. We had a great meeting with good participation. Victor will be back September 17th for training. You might ask, “What will this do for us?” Let me list a few things.

1. Crossover Crowley will be a **major evangelism opportunity to present the gospel to thousands** of people that visit Crowley every year for the Rice Festival (over 100,000).
2. Crossover Crowley will **train your people in evangelism techniques that will help your church** for years to come.
3. Crossover Crowley will **energize your folks with a new burden for the lost all around us.**
4. Crossover Crowley will **give us a major tool to use during the many festivals** that are held throughout the South Central Area of Louisiana that we serve.

During the training to be held September 17 your people will be trained in what is called **Intentional Community Evangelism**. These techniques have been used very successfully all across our country to energize the concern for lost people in our midst and to give us effective tools to help share the love of Jesus. Many laymen and pastors speak of this process bringing great change into their lives, specifically increasing their desire to reach people for Christ. I cannot over emphasize what this opportunity will give you and those that come for the training. Training will be held **September 17th at the First Baptist Church of Crowley beginning with registration at 8:00 AM! SEE YOU THERE!!!**

New Hispanic Work Opportunities

Several new areas of opportunity have presented themselves with the Hispanic people of our area. There has been an ongoing Bible study for Hispanics in Mamou for several years at the home of Conrad Bieber. That work is being lifted to an official ministry by the LBC. Also, there is work in the Miller French Area and Forest Hill area that should lead to church plants specifically for Hispanic agricultural workers. **We need church sponsors for all of these works.** See additional article on Church Sponsoring.

Gearing up for Fall Annual Meetings

Our **Fall Annual Meetings** are just around the corner. These meetings are very important and we need to have good participation from each church. My goals are to have at least one person from every church in attendance at this year's annual meetings. Many have asked "Why should I go to annual meetings"? Annual meetings are important. Here are some reasons:

- 1) Annual meetings give us a chance to organize our Association for the new year with new leadership and a new budget.
- 2) Annual meetings give the leadership a chance to present a vision for joint cooperation among our churches. Remember, "where there is not vision the people perish".
- 3) The annual meetings give us an opportunity to fellowship with other church leadership.

Reaching people for Christ is a joint effort. We need to work among our churches as well as working together with fellowship churches for the cause of Christ. The New Testament believers worked together for the common good. They were not independent islands of faith. They knew each other. They shared leadership through Paul and so many others. They shared in offerings for each other. It was very much a joint work. This is the pattern that Associations were organized around. We get far more accomplished together than we do independently. In fact, as a general rule, those churches that are not working with other churches have a greater tendency to find themselves in decline. We need each other. **Pastors, I'm asking you to help me in this effort. Would you make it a priority to attend the annually meeting for your association and bring at least one person from your church?** The meetings dates and sites are:

Mt. Olive Association

September 19th, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm

Glenmora BC

Meal before evening session

(This meeting will have a preaching

Conference in the afternoon followed

by a meal and business session in the evening.)

Acadia Association

September 27th, 6:30 pm

FBC Rayne

Refreshments after the meeting

Louisiana Association

October 3rd, 6:30 pm

Lone Pine BC

Refreshments after the meeting

Reap Revivals

It's time to think about your 2012 Calendar!

Bro. Paul and Vanessa Cherry are full time evangelists. They preached and sang at the Louisiana Evangelism Conference last January. This was a very successful meeting. The Cherrys are one of the most sought-after small and medium church evangelists teams in our convention. Bro. Paul has blocked his calendar in February of 2012 to be in this area for revival meetings. He will come and provide music and preaching for your church for a one night event or a full revival during the weeks of February 5 through the 22. We have one church participating at this point. We need to get these dates filled. They will also provide revival preparation material and instruction.

Church Sponsors needed

What is a church sponsor? **A church sponsor is a church that will join with the mother church to help in a particular mission project.** Usually there is a monthly financial commitment (it doesn't have to be large) and a commitment to try and provide a few servants for the Barnabus Team. Each mission project has a mother church and several sponsoring churches for the project. The Louisiana Baptist Convention will then team up with the churches and provide up to 40% of the needed budget for the project from CP and GB, funding. This is a great way to be involved in local mission work. A mission project may be a ministry project such as providing groceries, a children's outreach ministry such as after school tutoring, an evangelism ministry designed to provide block parties, alcohol free zones during festivals, etc. A church plant project is actually starting a Bible study designed to start a church for a particular group of people in an unreached area or for a specific language group. We need your church to sponsor mission projects in our area. By the way, a Mother Church is a church that is willing to take the lead in creating a particular mission project. **We need Mother Churches also!**

This year's progressive Revival...

in Acadia Association was a tremendous success. Twelve churches joined together in four groups to have revival meetings on a rotation basis. Pastors of each church were arranged so that every revival meeting group had a different pastor each night. None of the pastors preached at their own churches in order that every church heard a different pastor preach. Each night, Sunday through Tuesday, three churches would meet together. On Wednesday evening all twelve churches met at First Baptist Church of Opelousas for a final revival rally. Bro. Steve James from Trinity Baptist Church in Lake Charles was the guest preacher. We had over 350 people in attendance on the final night. I must admit I have never been around progressive revivals before and I was pleasantly surprised. Bro. Greg Gaspard and Bro. Gary Mitchell are to be commended for the leadership they are giving Acadia Association in this effort.

SEPTEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

MT. OLIVE ASSOCIATION

- 6 Youth Workers Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Emmanuel
- 12 Men's Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Glenmora
- 17 Crossover Crowley Training, 8:00 a.m. registration, FBC Crowley
- 17 "Men at the Cross" (Joe White), 8:00-12:30, Calvary, Opelousas
- 19 **Annual Meeting, 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. Glenmora**
- 24 See You At The Pole Rally, 3:00 p.m., ABC, meal \$2.00
- 25 "At the Crossroads" Ladies conference, 8:30 am registration, New Hope

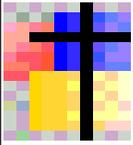
ACADIA ASSOCIATION

- 9-10 Youth Ministers Retreat, ABC \$25.00
- 10 Beth Moore Simulcast, FBC Opelousas, registration-8:00am
COST REDUCED: \$20, CAN REGISTER ON WEB SITE
- 13 Senior Adult Retreat, 10:00 am, Lunch, ABC
- 17 **Crossover Crowley Training, 8:00 am Registration, FBC Crowley**
- 23-24 Survivor Man RA Retreat, 5:00 pm Fri— Sat., ABC
- 23-24 Baptist Nursing Fellowship, Registration 2:30 Fri.-Sat. 2:15, ABC
- 24 **See You At the Pole Rally, 3:00 pm, ABC, Meal \$2.00**
- 27 **Annual Meeting, 6:30 pm, FBC Rayne, finger foods**
- 29 WMU Quarterly Meeting, 6:30, ABC

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION

- 9-10 Youth Ministers Retreat, ABC, \$25.00
- 10 WMU Meeting, 10:00 am, Bayou Rouge, Evergreen, lunch, Donna Landry, speaker
- 13 Senior Adult Retreat, 10:00 am, Lunch, ABC
- 17 Crossover Crowley Training, 8:00 a.m. registration, FBC Crowley
- 23-25 Youth Revival with Chip and the Heard, Life Point, Cottonport
7-10:00 pm Fri. & Sat., 10:00-11:00 am Sunday
- 23-24 Survivor Man RA Retreat, 5:00 pm Fri— Sat., ABC
- 23-24 Baptist Nursing Fellowship, Registration 2:30 Fri.-Sat. 2:15, ABC
- 24 **See You At the Pole Rally, 3:00 pm, ABC, Meal \$2.00**
- 24 Men's Rally, Hessmer BC, 10:30-12:00, luncheon





**JOINT ASSOCIATION
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VISIT US ON THE WEB!!!

www.acadia-association.org

www.mtoliveassociation.org

www.louisiana-association.org

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Mowata Hispanic Mission

The Mowata Hispanic Baptist Mission was started after the first of the year and has grown to a final attendance of 25 at the end of the growing season. Bro. Carlos Schmidt, the Church planter and the Barnabas team from sponsoring churches have given great leadership for this church plant process. They have discovered two permanent resident Hispanic families that give the work stability. As you know most of the Hispanics in our area are on Agricultural Visas and they can only be in our country for 10 months before they have to go home. They will return in a few months to continue their work on the farms and their participation in mission work and will continue meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the Mowata Baptist Church on Sunday evening with those that are still here. In the Fall we expect to begin with a great group that will boost this new church plant in the new year. Pray for Bro. Carlos and the Barnabas Team as they serve. Thanks goes out to FBC Eunice and the Mowata Baptist Church for their help in this mission project.

CHRISTIAN COUNSELORS!!!

Paula Sheppard 337-468-4375

Ginger Hisaw 318-623-1711

Mailing Address Change

We have decided to change the mailing address for the Joint Association Office from the old Post Office box in Eunice to a regular Mail Box at the office site. **The New Mailing address is:**

Joint Association Office

4549 Veteran Memorial Highway

Mamou, LA 70554

Please make this change in your correspondence to the JAO. Of course, any mail inadvertently sent to the old box address will be forwarded for one year. We have made this change because of some confusion over the actual mailing address. Some mail sent to the physical address was being returned. Also some mail has been lost. This also makes it a little easier for us to retrieve the daily mail. Thanks for your cooperation.