

March 2026



The Connection

Steven L. Kelly - Associational Mission Strategist
Alise Wyant - Ministry Assistant

Pastor/Staff Fellowship



March 17 at 11:30 a.m.
McClendon Baptist
West Monroe



Jack Norman, Pastor
The Well



Chad McClurg, Director
ULM-BCM



Russell Caldwell
Rescue Community/
Amazing Grace

**NELBA
Sponsored
Ministries**



Pedro Salas, Pastor
Iglesia Emmanuel



Pam Walker, Director
Care & Hope Ministry



Anita Watson, Principal
Northeast Baptist School



Alvin Rosenow
Northeast Hispanic



318.537.9548

7103 DeSiard Street
Monroe LA 71203

office@nela-morehouse.org
steve@nela-morehouse.org

www.nela-morehouse.org

Louisiana Baptists Women's Missions and Ministry Spring Events



Congratulations on your March anniversary!

- **Mickey Bounds**, associate pastor * 6 years * Cherry Ridge
- **Russell Caldwell**, pastor * 3 years * Rescue Community
- **Kevin Crim**, campus pastor * **10 years** * North Church, Bastrop
- **Ben Hackler**, pastor * 12 years * First, Sterlington
- **Stacy Hodge**, administrative assistant * 7 years * Ouachita
- **Chase Nance**, middle school pastor * 6 years * North Monroe
- **Jim Wolfe**, pastor * 12 years * Ridge Avenue

Monroe Serve Tour August 21-22, 2026

By partnering with the Louisiana Baptist Convention and NELBA, Send Relief is making it easy for you and your team to have a lasting impact on the lives of Monroe's most vulnerable.

For information go to:
<https://www.sendrelief.org/serve-tour/monroe-serve-tour/>



Upcoming Book Study

Autopsy
of a
Deceased
Church

12 WAYS TO KEEP YOURS ALIVE

Thom S. Rainer

April 16 & 30
May 14

11:30 a.m. - 1:00p.m.

All pastors, staff and
laymen are welcome
to join! Books are
provided.



NELBA hosted Dr. Steve Horn, Executive Director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, at the associational office building for one of his many stops on his "Listening Tour" throughout the state in 2026. The primary topic of discussion was the importance of the Cooperative Program in our collective work.





Northeast Baptist School

Registration 11:00 a.m.
Lunch Noon
Tee Off 1:00 p.m.

Shotgun Start
Four player scramble

**Team Entry deadline
April 6, 2026**

Sign up by March 23 and receive a FREE mulligan

**Sponsorship Deadline is
March 23**

cmartin@nbs.school
318-325-2077

From the Associational Mission Strategist



The ice storm of 2026 will be memorable for all of us for years to come. It significantly impacted us individually, as churches, and the entire region. It is something that will be used as a standard of comparison to set next to other weather events from both the past and the future.

As I write this, we still have numerous outside groups on the ground that have partnered with our NELBA churches. The Louisiana Baptist Convention's Disaster Relief headquarters is at McClendon Baptist Church. Samaritan's Purse Disaster Relief unit is being housed at Fair Park Baptist Church. Another group, called the Minutemen, are working out of First Baptist, West Monroe. In addition, I know of other NELBA churches that partnered with other groups to help provide food, showers, and warming centers.

These will gradually leave our area. Some of these will be gone before you read this article. However, they were here and left their mark.

Let's consider who was not here. There was not a disaster relief group composed of atheists that came to our area. I have never even heard of such an organization in existence. I do not know of any non-Christian, religious groups that work together in time of disaster to help anyone, anywhere.

Be it tornados, hurricanes, wildfires, or any other calamities known to man, it is only Christian groups that seem to respond to such times of need. This fact should affirm us in our cooperation as churches and in the larger body of Christ. We meet physical needs in hopes of addressing spiritual needs.

I got to experience this firsthand in 2021 when I pastored in Morgan City, Louisiana. Hurricane Ida came in with a fury about 40 miles east of us. It devastated parts of Houma, Thibodaux, and the west side of greater New Orleans. We were on the "good" side of the storm and sustained no damage. The church I was pastoring housed Southern Baptist Disaster Relief workers from Oklahoma for 61 days. They basically took over our campus. They arrived less than 4 days after the storm made landfall. It was a tremendous blessing to be a part of something so massive for the sake of facilitating hands-on ministry to hurting people.

So, as we move forward as churches, an association, and the larger body of Christ, let's be thankful that we get to serve with those marked by the love of Jesus and a love for people. With or without storms, we are always in the relief business.

Steven L. Kelly
Associational Mission Strategist

Churches Connecting

Cypress, West Monroe - "My Story, His Glory" Ladies Conference, March 7, 9:00 a.m. - Noon. Guest Speaker, Linsey Barnard, The Hub: Urban Ministries and worship led by Annmarie Cash Ainsworth & Andrew Knight. Lunch will be provided.

New Chapel Hill - They will have revival services March 15-18 with guest speaker, Mark Bishop from GracePointe Baptist, Louisville, KY. Services begin at 6:00 p.m. each night. All are invited to attend!

New Hope, Jones - We extend sympathy to the family of Gary Traylor, pastor, who passed away after a brief illness. We are also praying for the congregation of New Hope as they go through this loss.

Pine Grove, Bastrop - They will have a Revival March 22-25 beginning at 6:30 p.m. each night. Richie Kelly will be the guest speaker and Tim Pitts will lead worship. Everyone is invited!

Victory, Monroe - We would like to welcome their new secretary, Deri Gayle. We look forward to working with her in ministry.

Email us about your church events by the 15th of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

Positions Available

Pastor - Cheniere, Emmanuel, Oak Hill, New Hope

Worship Leader - Highland, Watson

Students/Youth - Cypress

Children's Minister - New Chapel Hill, Mt. Vernon

Musician - Pine Grove (pianist or guitarist)

NELBA Events

March 2026

- 2 **Coffee, Donuts, Fellowship & Prayer**, 8:00 a.m. at Associational Center. All pastors and staff are invited.
- 11 **Book Study Continues**
- 17 **Pastor/Staff Fellowship**, 11:30 a.m., McClendon, West Monroe
- 19 **Book Study Concludes**

April 2026

- 13 **Coffee, Donuts, Fellowship & Prayer**, 8:00 a.m. at Associational Center. All pastors and staff are invited.
- 16 **Book Study** for “Autopsy of a Deceased Church”
- 30 **Book Study** for “Autopsy of a Deceased Church”



Louisiana Baptist Events

March 2026

- 1-8 **Week of Prayer** for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 6-7 **Teen Girl Retreat**, Tall Timbers, Woodworth
- 8 **Church Bible Drills**
- 14 **KidMin Expo/VBS Training**, Temple, Ruston
- 20 **RA Congress**, Tall Timbers, Woodworth
- 28 **M-Jam**, Kingsville Baptist, Ball

April 2026

- 17 **Embrace Women's Conference**, First Baptist, Zachary
- 25 **State Bible Drill**, Calvary, Alexandria

