

Snowing in New Orleans Innovative events help churches reach out

Who would think that a snow ball fight would bring a church in New Orleans closer to the surrounding community or that a small church's block party would have 500 community members attend? That's exactly what happened for Ames Boulevard Baptist Church in Marrero and First Baptist Church in Westwego. These two Westbank New Orleans area churches are coming up with creative events to bring new faces into their churches and to show that they are stepping out into their communities.

Ames Boulevard Baptist Church held WinterFest on Saturday, January 6, 2008 on the church grounds from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The highlight of the event was the more than 300 pounds of snow, which is definitely a rare site in south Louisiana.



The church hired a company to make the snow on site to allow the community to enjoy making snowmen and having snowball fights. In addition to snow, the church had From Here to Mars, a contemporary Christian band from Southeastern University, play throughout the day. They also had inflatables, carnival games, face painting, rock climbing, and free food.

The church's pastor, associate pastor, and youth minister all presented the gospel briefly at different points during the event. While families were walking around enjoying the activities, the church's evangelism team shared with everyone who was there and gave them New Testaments

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Tornado impacts students with ties to NOBTS

More than 60 rare winter tornadoes touched down in parts of Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Alabama and Mississippi Feb. 5, killing at least 48 people and leaving residents to cope with damaged homes, downed power lines and fallen trees.

For four families with ties to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, the tornado that struck Union University in Jackson, Tenn., hit quite close to home. Current professors Bob Stewart and Philip Pinckard have children at Union - Bethany and Matthew, respectively. In addition, former professors Stan Norman and Jim Shaddix also each have a son at the school - Andrew and Shane, respectively.

In all, 51 Union University students were



An emergency responder cuts through debris to free Union University students from a dormitory damaged by the Feb. 5 tornado.

treated for injuries and nine were hospitalized after the tornado blew through the campus, damaging or destroying almost every building

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This Week in Chapel

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Dr. Preston Nix

NOBTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Dr. John Sullivan

Executive Director-Treasurer
Florida Baptist Convention

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Dr. Tony Merida

Dean of the Chapel

Next Week in Chapel

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Col. John Cook

Chaplain, West Point

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Dr. Jeremy Evans

NOBTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Dr. Tony Merida

Dean of the Chapel

John T. Christian Library Regular Hours:

- Monday–Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Closed Sunday

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as gifts. The team kept from talking to the same people twice by giving out stickers to people they talked to.

Don Pike, the associate pastor, said, "the philosophy was that the way to reach the people in our community is through the children, and several good seeds were planted."

WinterFest was a huge success, and the church plans on hosting it again next year. The immediate response from the community was positive. People said that snow is not normal in this area and neither was this event. Since WinterFest, the church's worship attendance has risen, and they have had more than 25 first time guests.

First Baptist Church of Westwego held Wego Wild on November 3 at Catfish Bourgeois Park in Westwego from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bobby Wood, minister of education, planned Wego Wild because he wants to let the community know that FBC is a church who loves God and people. "The intent of Wego Wild was for us to give the community free prizes, free food, and a free event in order to represent the free gift of grace we receive from Christ," said Wood.

More than 80 percent of the church's membership showed up to work at the event, and almost 100 percent of the church attended. The community was stunned that the church left its grounds to serve them. When Wood and an evangelism team were out on a follow-up visit, one man said, "I've never seen a church do something like this. It's amazing to see a church give free things away and be willing to do things like this for people. I've been raised Catholic, and I've been raising my kids Catholic, but I've never seen any church do what you did

that Saturday. I'm now throwing around the idea of doing something different—of visiting your church or another one," reported Wood.

Daniel Savage, the worship pastor, said, "Out of all the churches I have been involved with, it was the coolest picture of the church being the church. Whether it was a guy standing at a grill for literally four hours or sitting at a football toss, it was great to see the turnout and excitement of our people wanting to reach out to their community."

Pastor Jay Adkins said the event was the best community outreach event in the history of the church and that the church will host Wego Wild again next year. 15 people have started coming to FBC Westwego as a result of attending the event, and church members are already thinking of other creative ways to reach their neighbors.

Both Pike and Wood are New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary students who are a part of the Unlimited Partnerships program. Unlimited Partnerships is a partnership between the LBC, NAMB, NOBTS, and Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans that places seminary students on staff in Gulf Coast area churches to help with evangelism, discipleship, starting new units and leadership development in order to see the churches in New Orleans flourish.

Sponsoring churches pay the salary of the students and mentor them in their work at their churches. Truly, these events show what an impact this partnership is making in New Orleans.

For more information on how to participate in the Unlimited Partnerships program, contact Bethany Hales by phone at 225.202.1816 or by email at bethanyhales@yahoo.com.

New Suburban Baptist Church Worship Service**Who?**

Pastor Jeffery Q. Friend and the staff of Suburban Baptist Church would like to invite all students to attend The Vine Service every Sunday at 8 a.m.

What?

The Vine Service is a worship that has been designed with students at the seminary in mind. It is the students of NOBTS who preach and lead worship but it is Jesus who is glorified. If you are a preacher or worship leader and you have no place to use your gift then this worship service is for you.

Where?

Suburban Baptist Church located at 10501 Chef Highway.

Directions:

Take a left when exiting the seminary and proceed 5 miles down Chef Highway. The church will be on the left after you cross Reed Blvd. For more information, please contact Associate Pastor David Braden at brobraden@gmail.com or Jason Lawson, children's pastor, at eagleeye4christ@yahoo.com.

BCM Intern Needed

Mississippi Baptists are in need of a full-time BCM intern at the Gulf Coast Community College in Gautier. Applicants need to have a desire and a calling to help reach, develop and mobilize college students. Previous experience in college ministry and/or BSU is desirable. Involvement in BSU/BCM as a student is also preferred. Applicants who have not yet completed seminary are welcome.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Andy Wiggins in the Church Minister Relations Office 1.800.662.8701 or 504.282.4455, ext 3291, or email cmrconsultant@nobts.edu.

Recreation News**Intramurals**

Intramural Volleyball sign-up is this week. Anyone wanting to sign up their team, please come by the Rec. Center to give us their information. If you have any questions, please call Mike Massaro at 904.248.8352.

Upcoming Activities

We have more exciting activities coming soon! As usual, if you have any questions, please contact Carl Scroggs by email at gymdirector@nobts.edu, by phone at 504.816.8594, or simply stop by the Recreation Center to see what's happening.

Tax Assistance

The VITA Program offers free tax help to low- to moderate-income (generally \$40,000 and below) people who cannot prepare their own tax returns.

Certified volunteers sponsored by various organizations receive training to help prepare basic tax returns in communities across the country. VITA sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations. Most locations also offer free electronic filing.

To locate the nearest VITA site, call 1.800.829.1040.

IMB Representative On Campus

Dr. Bob Dilks, IMB Candidate Consultant, will be on campus on Wednesday, Feb. 20. To schedule an appointment, please call Mindy McCord at 1.800.765.0011 or email mmccord@imb.org no later than Thursday, Feb. 14. Limited appointments are available.

Women's Ministry Happenings

A progressive Valentines dinner for student wives, profettes and their spouses

Thursday, February 21, at 6 p.m., there will be a progressive Valentines Day dinner for student wives, profettes, and their spouses. The meal will begin at the President's Home.

Tickets are \$10 per couple and are on sale in the Dean of Students Office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Childcare during this event is available for a small fee through the NOBTS preschool for children up to 8 years. To make childcare reservations contact the preschool at 504.816.8585. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, February 19. Cancellations must be made by the Wednesday before the meeting date.

Brown Bag Bible Study Begins Monday, Feb. 11

For All NOBTS Women, the Brown Bag Bible Study will be every Monday beginning February 11 from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Balcony Room of the Cafeteria. For more information, simply come to the event.



For more information on the progressive Valentines Day dinner, the weekly Brown Bag Bible Study or Student Wives classes please contact Christian Parrish, the coordinator of women's programs at NOBTS, at cparrish@nobts.edu or call extension 3334.

STF Hosts Monthly Colloquy

The STF is hosting its monthly colloquy "Food for Thought" on Monday, February 11. Come, bring your lunch, and listen to Page Brooks as he presents a paper on Christianity and Islam in the Creole Room by the Cafeteria at noon.



Scholarships for Mississippi Students

Scholarships available for Mississippi students who will begin their 2nd year of seminary in Fall 2008 and are interested in missions.

Please see the Financial Aid Office for details. Application deadline is April 15.

Student Theological Fellowship Meeting

Would you like a chance to discuss theology outside the classroom? Every Friday from noon to 1 p.m., we are meeting in front of Cafe New Orleans for a time of fellowship and tutorial. Come and eat your lunch with theologians and discuss theological issues that impact our lives and ministries.

Children's Ministry Intern Sought

Oak Street Baptist Church in Soddy Daisy, Tenn., needs a Children's Ministry Intern to serve this summer. This is a paid position with housing available. Go to www.oakstreetchurch.net. For more information, please email Pastor Joe Miller at BroJTM@comcast.net.

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on campus. There were no fatalities on the Union campus. All the students with ties to New Orleans Seminary were unharmed.

"By God's providence, no lives were lost," Union University President David S. Dockery said last week.

At once, a call for help went out to Baptists in Tennessee and across the nation. Ron Stewart, the president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention called on Southern Baptists in that state and across the nation to consider how they can help the Union University community tackle the challenge of rebuilding.

"Our prayers go out to all the students, faculty and Dr. Dockery," said Tom McCoy, pastor of Thompson Station Baptist Church south of Nashville. "We know the storms destroyed much of the personal possessions of many, and I encourage all our Baptist brothers and sisters across our state and nation to support those who have experienced loss."

From the day after the tornado, NOBTS President Chuck Kelley has called for New Orleans Seminary faculty, staff and students to step up to provide aide and encouragement for Union students who have experienced such devastating loss.

"The aftermath of the storm sounds very familiar to those of us who went through Katrina," Kelley said in an email Feb. 6. "As recipients of grace ourselves, we must respond."

Kelley urged members of the New Orleans Seminary family to respond in three main ways. First, he called them to meet the physical needs of the Union students. An



Despite widespread destruction at Union University, there was no loss of life on the Jackson, Tenn., campus.

offering was collected in Chapel Feb. 7. Students, faculty and staff may also continue to give through the Office of Institutional Advancement. Kelley also urged constant prayer for those affected.

"Many of you remember how hard it was to see your home or office destroyed for the first time," he said. "Bathe them in prayer the way people bathed us in prayer."

Kelley also announced the possibility of ministering to Union students through letters and emails. NOBTS students interested in encouraging a Union student in this way may contact the Dean of Students Office.

Baptist Press has created a blog site for news and updates from Union University.

The blog site, which will be updated as information is received, can be accessed at www.bpnews.net/blog/, or simply by going to Baptist Press' homepage and clicking the "Union University Tornado Updates" in the upper right hand corner.

(Compiled from BP articles and local reports)

Church-Minister Relations

Ministry Opportunities

The following are a few of the ministry positions received by the Church-Minister Relations office. Churches are listed according to the type of ministry position needed and whether the position is classified as part-time or full-time. All positions within a 2-hour radius of New Orleans are listed separately with the approximate distance in parentheses. To contact any of these churches, or to have your resume sent to other unpublished ministry opportunities, visit the CMR office (second floor, Frost Building) or contact them at 504-282-4455 or 1-800-662-8701, ext. 3291, or cmrconsultant@nobts.edu.

New Orleans Area

Full-time

- First Baptist Church, Saint Rose, La.; pastor (23)
 - Silver Springs Baptist Church, Osyka, Miss.; pastor (96)
 - Magnolia Baptist Church, Holden, La.; pastor (68)
 - Bethlehem Baptist Church, Albany, La.; music/education (63)
 - Woodlawn Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La.; youth (71)
 - Calvary Baptist Church, New Orleans, La.; pastor (10)
 - Edgewater Baptist Church, New Orleans, La.; pastor (3)
 - Handsboro Baptist Church, Gulfport, Miss.; pastor (74)
 - First Baptist Church, LaPlace, La.; pastor (41)
 - New Zion Baptist Church, Kentwood, La.; pastor (90)
 - First Baptist Church, Livingston, La.; music (74)
 - East Moss Point Baptist Church, Moss Point, Miss.; pastor (105)
 - First Baptist Church, Zachary, La.; children (98)
- ##### Part-time
- First Baptist Church, Saint Rose, La.; youth (23)
 - First Baptist Church, Saint Rose, La.; children (23)
 - Little Prairie Baptist Church, Prairieville, La.; youth (67)
 - Mount Hermon Baptist Church, Mt. Hermon, La. youth (103)

- Immanuel Baptist Church, Slidell, La.; outreach and teaching (28)
- Immanuel Baptist Church, Slidell, La.; children (28)
- St. Luke's United Methodist Church, New Orleans, La.; music (5)
- Greenwell Springs Baptist Church, Greenwell Springs, La.; children (95)
- Clifton Baptist Church, Franklinton, La.; youth (71)
- Coteau Baptist Church, Houma, La.; youth (59)
- First Baptist Church, Hammond, La.; music (60)
- Monroe Street Baptist Church, Bogalusa, La.; music (70)
- Bayou L'ourse Baptist Church, Bayou L'ourse, La.; pastor (81)
- Gillsburg Baptist Church, Osyka, Miss.; music (96)
- Mount Hermon Baptist Church, Mount Hermon, La.; youth (104)
- Chinese Presbyterian Church, Kenner, La.; youth (15)
- New Orleans Community Church, Metairie, La.; music (10)
- Main Street Baptist Church, Bogalusa, La.; associate pastor/music and youth (70)
- Christ Baptist Church, Houma, La.; music (59)
- Faithview Baptist Church, Saucier, Miss.; youth and/or music (85)

Pastor

Full-time

- Hallsville Baptist Church, Hallsville, Mo.
 - Morgan Baptist Church, Morgan, Ga.
 - Scooba Baptist Church, Scooba, Miss.
 - First Baptist Church of Eastport, Annapolis, Md.
 - First Baptist Church, Hayti, Mo.
- ##### Part-time
- Pine Ridge Baptist Church, Kamiah, Idaho
 - Elk City Baptist Church, Elk City, Idaho
 - Mt. Idaho Baptist Church, Mt. Idaho, Idaho

Music

Full-time

- Parkview Baptist Church, Tuscumbia, Ala.
- First Baptist Church, Brewton, Ala.
- First Baptist Church, Orange Beach, Ala.
- Southside Baptist Church, Savannah, Ga.
- Liberty Baptist Church, Dublin, Ga.

Youth

Full-time

- West University Baptist Church, Houston, Texas

- First Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.
- Pine Forest Baptist Church, Vidor, Texas
- Parker Memorial Baptist Church, Anniston, Ala.
- Southern Hills Baptist Church, Sioux City, Iowa

Children/Preschool

Full-time

- First Baptist Church, Bolivar, Mo.
- Arapaho Road Baptist Church, Garland, Texas

Combination

Full-time

- Central Baptist Church, Brookhaven, Miss.; Music and Outreach
- Tishomingo Baptist Church, Tishomingo, Miss.; Associate Pastor/Youth
- Temple Baptist Church, Ruston, La.; Youth and Recreation
- Pine Grove Baptist Church, Centre, Ala.; Music and Education
- County Line Baptist Church, Lithia Springs, Ga.; Youth and Education

Other

Full-time

- Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, Tenn.; College Ministry Assistant (female)
- North Star Baptist Church, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Church Planter
- Fellowship Baptist Church, McCall, Idaho; Church Planter
- Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Young Families



NEW ORLEANS
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

