



**Little River**  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
Serving The Church. Serving The Kingdom.

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**June 2020 Edition**

## The Non-Essential Pastor

*How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? (Romans 10:14)*

A few months ago, our federal and state government officials determined that certain businesses/careers/people were deemed; **“Essential” or Non-essential.**”

Now having been a Baptist Pastor for some three decades, I’ve never struggled with the question of are preachers “essential” or “non-essential?” In the verse mention above, Paul emphatically says, “... *how shall they hear without a preacher?*” That statement answers the question of how “essential” those that preach the word are.

The writer of Hebrews answers the question of how “essential” the church is. He says ... *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is...”* Online church services have met a need during this pandemic, but the *“assembling ourselves together”* is a command from our Lord.

With that being said; it wasn’t until this term of “essential or non-essential” came about during the Covid-19 era, that I discovered a Pastor, or even the church could be considered “non-essential.” My first thought was... “NON-ESSENTIAL???” What do you mean? Who in this world, during a national crisis would consider a pastor, a church NON-ESSENTIAL? During the terror attack of 911, the pastor and the churches were called upon to bring folks together and to pray for our country. In the weeks following, many people came to Christ with a sense of urgency, altars were filled with people praying for God’s Hand on America.

I have witnessed pastors working harder and struggling more than ever before during this pandemic. They have stressed to fulfil their calling to “preach the word” during a time when assembling together was not safe and not allowed. They have been stressed with how to minister to their congregation in a time of “social distancing.” Furthermore, they have endured the difficulty of preaching to a camera in an empty auditorium.

“Non-essential???” NOT AT ALL!! The Church and the Pastor is more essential now than ever before. I sure hope the congregations of Little River Baptist Association appreciate the sacrifices your pastor and his family have experienced over these past few months. And can I share with you in closing what verse 14 of Romans chapter 10 says... *“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, **How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**”*

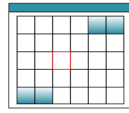
May God Bless the Men of God who stand behind the sacred desk of churches across our land, and preach the ***gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!***

With Love in Christ,

Bro. Bobby Sellers



VBS looks very different this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. We know that our churches are struggling and may be looking for a different alternative to VBS. A simple VBS kit called Bible Blast to the Past is available at the Baptist Center. It has been donated to give to churches free of charge. Please let us know if you would like a kit.



### Calendar Of Events



The June Mission Board Meeting for June has been cancelled. Plans are to possibly have the July Mission Board here at the Baptist Center. As soon as approved we will be announcing.

CAMP CADIZ has unfortunately been cancelled for June 21-25.

**SBC Annual Meeting  
Orlando– cancelled**

Vacation Bible Schools scheduled for the month June have been postponed.

**Father's Day  
June 21, 2020**



### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY

Church	Regular	Special
Bethany	124.02	
Blue Spring	1,325.50	
Buffalo	0	
Cadiz	1,047.90	
Canton	792.77	250.00
Cerulean	420.00	
Delmont	0	
Donaldson Creek	0	
East Cadiz	779.58	
Hurricane	400.00	
Liberty Point	698.24	
Locust Grove	696.00	
Maple Grove	400.00	
New Hope	355.40	
New Jerusalem	0	
New Light	0	
Oak Grove	0	
Ponderosa	665.08	1,295.00
Rock Front	200.00	
Rocky Ridge	284.00	
South Union	196.32	
Wallonia	200.00	
Misc. Income	1,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,584.81</b>	<b>1,545.00</b>
		<b>11,129.81</b>
Interest NOW Acc.	4.77	
Deaf Ministry		250.00
Assoc. Mission Project		1,295.00
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>9,589.58</b>	<b>1,545.00</b>
<b>Total income</b>		<b>\$11,134.58</b>
<b>Monthly expense</b>		<b>9,762.41</b>
<b>Regular Fund</b>		
Beginning Balance		<b>31,644.92</b>
Interest Received		<b>4.77</b>
Gifts		<b>9,964.81</b>
Trans– Contingency Fund		
Trans– OMC		
Trans– Building Maintenance Fund		
Trans– Associational Mission Project		
Expense Checks Written		<b>-9,740.05</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$31,874.45</b>
<b>Treasurer: Louise Fuller 5/25/20</b>		



*Julie Colley– 6/3*  
*Steve Hardy– 6/12*  
*Annette Bryant– 6/25*