

EVANGELISM AND CHURCH GROWTH TEAM

Keith Manuel, Director

"Change Me" was the emphasis of the Evangelism Conference hosted by Summer Grove, Shreveport. We were challenged, equipped, and thrilled to gather online and in-person. Next year's ECON will be January 24-25, 2022. Our host is First, Covington.

Sean Keith is your Sunday School, Discipleship, and Revitalization Strategist. The Digital ReGroup Conference reached 1,000 participants, and helped equip pastors, staff, and lay leaders to reach their communities with the Gospel through small groups. Sean has spent much time preparing materials with a diverse group of pastors and church leaders to assist congregations with "ReFresh," a way for churches to start fresh and anew, especially in light of the pandemic.

Your Adult Ministries and Church Administration Strategist is Jeff Ingram. He coordinated the Senior Adult portion of ECON 2020 which was still well attended, despite the pandemic. He also led meetings across the state for the Louisiana Association of Baptist Ministry Assistants. His work in Church Administration is mainly in consultations with churches/associations that cover the following areas: Pastor/Staff Salary Breakdowns; IRS Compliance; Best Practices for Church Finance Committees; Church/Associational By-Laws; Code of Ethics for Ministerial Staff; Church Staff Job Descriptions; and Sexual Harassment & Abuse. Jeff also connects Louisiana Baptist churches with the GOLLA teams to help our churches with VBS and other summer ministry projects.

Brandon Lewis serves as your Youth Strategist. The Youth Evangelism Celebration ministered to 1,100 youth and adults in-person and online with many different spiritual decisions made during this powerful gathering. Camps were held this summer at Tall Timbers with 850 teens gathering for worship, equipping, and fun. Twenty-eight students made professions of faith and ten students indicated a call to ministry. In addition to the spiritual decisions made, students learned how to share their faith to return to their home mission field equipped to impact others with the Gospel. Students gave over \$4,600 for missions during these camps. Prayerfully, YEC will return to the Rapides Coliseum on November 21-22, 2021. Speaking this year is Clayton King with worship led by the Jason Lovins Band. Our concert guest this year is Crowder. For the safety of our students, our leadership continues to meet with Rapides Coliseum personnel to monitor the COVID situation and to follow appropriate protocols given by the state/national medical community.

Serving as your Children's Ministry Strategist is David Anderson. This year our children's camps returned to Tall Timbers with attendance of over 900. We know of 107 students who made professions of faith and the children gave \$4,400 to missions. VBS trainings were held in two locations this year with plans to expand locations in 2022. The Childhood Education Workshop which was cancelled last year returned with almost pre-pandemic numbers.

The Evangelism & Church Growth Team loves to serve you by providing training for your leaders and church members in evangelism, discipleship, administration, and age-group ministries. You may get updates from our team on Facebook by liking and following our page "Evangelism & Church Growth Team of Louisiana Baptists."