



Louisiana Interchurch  
Conference

## E-Newsletter

November 17, 2016

*“To live the faith we hold in  
common”*

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*Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His  
courts with praise: be thankful unto Him,  
and bless His name. Psalm 100:4*

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*Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. (Habakkuk 3:17ff.)*

It's been such a challenging year everywhere but especially so in Louisiana. After last Sunday's Gospel reading with apocalyptic visions in Luke 21:5-19, you'd almost think the passage was written for today. One of my colleagues in suggesting these looking like the end times offered nearly a dozen events that resonate with the passage from St. Luke's Gospel. WE know all the things that happened and were mentioned in

the reading: wars and rumors of wars, earthquakes, floods, fires, familial conflicts and you name it! In our State flooding took place in the Spring; there were the shootings; first, of Black men in Baton Rouge and other places; then, there was the shooting of police officers. There were more floods! To cap off recent events we have had a national election with candidates poles apart—one winning and delighting half the nation meaning the other half lost with half the nation sad and even some demonstrating to the consternation of the winner. Some may ask, What's to be thankful for now?

Over two millennia ago the prophet Habakkuk was called to speak to God's people. Like many of the prophets Habakkuk was a bit hesitant; particularly, because in his instance, Habakkuk was finding it difficult to understand why God was not seen as being more active in the affairs of his day. He pronounced words of judgment upon what he saw to be a wicked nation. In the end, rather than to continue to attempt to comprehend the ways of God, Habakkuk looked deep into his relationship with God. He concluded that in spite of all that seemed to be wrong in his world, he proclaimed, "I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation!"

The prophet recommitted himself to a life of faith, and you might even say he made a leap of faith. There was something more: He fulfilled the words spoken centuries later when Jesus told the ones who were also living in very challenging times, "By your endurance you will be saved." We too are to endure by continuing to live Gospel values, to proclaim the Good News, and to live the words of Micah 6:8B: And what does the lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and walk humbly with your God?" We give thanks to God who calls us to a life of service beyond fears and worries, doubts and anxieties and, yes, a world with hatred and divisions. We give thanks for the healing and wholeness God promises on the other side of the struggles so many now face. We give thanks for all God has already given us. We also recognize there is yet an abundance of God's blessings for which we still long for, for all of God's creation.

Amen.

Rev. Dan Krutz

### *Prayer Requests*

#### *Please keep in prayer:*

Mrs. Marguerite Rucker, who has a ongoing illness. Marguerite is the wife of Mr. Bill Rucker, a member of the LIC Commission on Criminal Justice (CCJ).

The many people who are still struggling with the effects of the March and August flooding in Louisiana. This is a long-term recovery process for many.

Update on Rev. Lisa Turnbull (a UMC minister and a former Regional Coordinator for the LIC), who was recently diagnosed with hydrocephalus (this is an accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain causing many side effects and without proper treatment, it can be deadly): She had surgery on Nov. 8th in Shreveport, and the surgery was successful. Thank the Lord! Please keep her in prayer as she recovers.

When a bird lands on your desk



11-15-16: This woodcock (*also called a timber doodle or bécasse [bay-Cass], from the French bécassine, meaning a snipe*), was found near where the LIC office is housed, by one of the tall buildings downtown. That building has a lot of glass windows and we assume that he injured himself by flying into the windows. They migrate to the southern states during the winter months. The administrative

assistant brought him back to the office – and that’s when the ‘fun’ began. As he couldn’t seem to fly, his box was left open while getting some water and bread for him. At that point he hops out of the box and takes a few flying leaps down the hall and straight into Rev. Jan Curwick’s office (the LIC Treasurer). And before he could be caught he hopped right up on her desk by her computer screen. Rev. Jan can move fast! (Nothing wrong with her vocal chords either!) Fortunately, she had seen the bird when it was first brought in so she was not totally terrified by her unexpected visitor – and the bird didn’t die of fright either! Rev. Jan was a good sport about the entire event. The bird was taken to the LSU vet school to the small animal emergency clinic that afternoon and kept for a couple of days while he recovered his sense of orientation and they made sure that he was eating and drinking normally as well. He was released back into the wild today.

*Interestingly enough, we saw that this little bird can put up his tail feathers in a fan pattern somewhat like a turkey. He wasn’t inclined to pose that way for a picture, so here are a couple of internet photos to give you a visual.*



*And like turkeys, Woodcocks do get hunted as well. It is a popular sport in Louisiana*



Bread or Stones – legislative action request

**Keeping Children in  
Our State Budget**



While Governor Edwards and our legislature have the difficult task of balancing the state budget in this coming fiscal session we know that certain things cannot be cut --- our children being high on that list. The faith community's moral obligation to take care of children in our state must be heard by our representatives.

Please send an email to Governor Edwards (click here-> [gov.louisiana.gov](http://gov.louisiana.gov)) about the well-being of the children of Louisiana as he prepares his 2017 budget in the coming weeks. Below is a statement that you could forward to Governor Edwards.

Governor Edwards,

*I am a member of the Bread or Stones Campaign for child well-being in the state of Louisiana. The future of the state of Louisiana depends on how we are to care for and prepare our youngest citizens. High quality early care and education will prepare our students for a smart start in life, enable families to be productive in the workforce, and serve as an economic engine for local communities. That is why we support expanding access to high quality early learning across the state of Louisiana by restoring funding for early care and education. In the upcoming weeks as you prepare the budget for our state I would ask that you consider our young children and the care and education needed to enable them to continue being outstanding and productive citizens.*

**Thank you!**

### [Interfaith Environmental Workshop December 8th](#)

## Interfaith Coastal Creation Care Workshop



Thursday, December 8, 2016 | 9:30-2:00

**All interested people of faith  
are welcome to attend.**

We will explore the interconnectedness of the health of our congregations, judicatories and their ministries and the health of our coast. We will discuss how people of faith can make a difference for people, and creation. For more information, and to RSVP please contact Helen Rose Patterson at: [pattersonh@nwf.org](mailto:pattersonh@nwf.org) or call (504)264-6866.

To be held at:  
**All Souls Episcopal  
Church and  
Community Center  
5500 St. Claude Ave.  
New Orleans, LA**

## 22 years and a birthday for Dr. Jones



Rev. Dr. Timothy Jones & Family

The Rev. Dr. Timothy Jones and the congregation of Peaceful Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Shreveport celebrated their 22nd anniversary together this past weekend. (Dr. Jones is the Judicatory leader to the LIC for the Baptist Missionary & Educational Convention of Louisiana, Inc.)

The well attended service also coincided with Dr. Jones' birthday. Rev. Harry Blake, previously a leader with the LIC, was a guest speaker. We are happy to be able to share this family photo with our readership and we offer our congratulations on this special occasion.

## January Week of Prayer – events requested please

### **Please let us know of Week of Prayer events in your area!**

It's not too early to start planning!

Please let us know as soon as you are able, of events being planned in your area, so that we may share the news. Find out more about the Week of Prayer, at website: <http://www.geii.org/>

**2017** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
Held January 18th – 25th annually

The LIC has a small supply of ordering forms for Week of Prayer materials. Please [email](#) us if you would like an ordering form pamphlet mailed to you.

Reconciliation – The Love of Christ Compels us  
(2 Corinthians 5:14-20)



## Friends mailout is on the way

Approximately 90% of our operating income comes from Judicatories. Their faithfulness in prayer and financial support is always appreciated. Occasionally, we also send out a 'Friends of the L.I.C.' support request. For all of those on our postal mailing list, you should be receiving a letter any day now, as they were sent out on Tuesday of this week.

**Please respond as generously as you are able to**, as your support helps with our ongoing **operational expenses**. Our budgeted goal for 2016 is \$3,990.00. To date, we have received \$1,127.25. Every gift counts and your help in meeting our goal would certainly be appreciated! We'll send a couple of 2017 wallet calendar cards as a small thank you to each person who contributes. Please keep the L.I.C. in prayer as well.

If you are not currently on our mailing list, and would like to contribute, please mail contributions to: Louisiana Interchurch Conference, Friends Pledge Drive, 527 N. Blvd., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or contribute online via PayPal/credit card at <http://www.lainterchurch.org/contribute/index.htm>. Thank you!

### *Giving Tuesday – November 29th*

**#GIVING  
TUESDAY**

*A worldwide celebration of  
generosity*

Giving Tuesday is a global day dedicated to giving back. On **Tuesday, November 29, 2016**, charities, families, businesses, community centers, and students around the world will come together for one common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give.

In 2015, \$117 million dollars was contributed to various organizations around the world on Giving Tuesday. Some were large contributions but many were smaller, from ordinary people collectively making a huge impact.

It's a simple idea. Just find a way for your family, your community, your company or your organization to come together to give something more. Then tell everyone you can about how you are giving. Join in to be a part of a global celebration of a new tradition of generosity. Perhaps you can include the LIC on that day!

### *Remember our Veterans during November*



Our hope is that we can all find a way to do something nice for a veteran this month, even as we keep them in prayer and remembrance.

### *Offering thanks to our recent contributors*

The majority of the LIC operating income is contributed through the leadership of our member Judicatories, whom we deeply appreciate and depend upon. Additionally, we offer our sincere thanks to our ministry partners who have contributed as listed below.

*Contributions received from October 28, 2016 through November 17, 2016:*

Sabbatical and Continuing Education Fund for Executive Director: Butler AME Zion Church and Rev. John Forbes.

# Thank you!

Please pray for this ecumenical ministry. If you would like to help financially, please mail contributions to: Louisiana Interchurch Conference, 527 N. Blvd., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or contribute online via PayPal at <http://www.lainterchurch.org/contribute/index.htm>.

## Dates to calendar & LIC Holiday schedule

### Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

#### **Annual Assembly meeting dates:**

2017		March 6-7, Monroe
2018		March 5-6, Baton Rouge

#### **Fall Board meeting dates:**

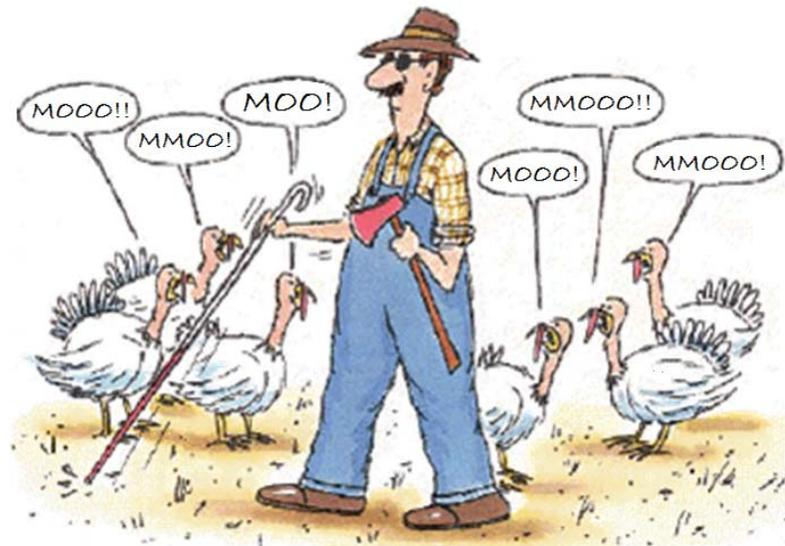
2017		Sept. 25-26, Alexandria
2018		Sept. 24-25, Lake Charles

### LIC Holiday Schedule:

Closed for Thanksgiving: Wednesday, November 23rd through Friday, November 25th. Will reopen on Monday, November 28.

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Closed for Christmas: Friday, December 23rd through Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. Will reopen on Wednesday, December 28th.

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Closed for New Year's: Friday, December 30th and Monday, January 2nd. Will reopen on Tuesday, January 3.



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***“To live the faith we hold in common”***

*Louisiana Interchurch Conference*

*527 North Blvd., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802*

*(225) 344-0134 [www.lainterchurch.org](http://www.lainterchurch.org)*

*President: The Rev. Dr. C. S. Gordon, Jr.; President Elect: The Most Rev. Michael G. Duca;*

*Executive Director: Fr. Dan Krutz*

You are receiving this message because you have previously expressed interest in the work of Louisiana Interchurch Conference. ***We hope you enjoy our newsletter!*** However, if you'd like to discontinue receiving this e-newsletter, please [click here](#) or call us at: (225) 344-0134.