



# NEWSLETTER

JULY 2017

**Louisiana Baptist Agricultural Missions Fellowship**

**P.O. Box 120, Homer, LA 71040**

**Partnership Missions Ministry, Louisiana Baptist Convention**

Website: <https://www.louisianabaptists.org/AGMissions>

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**Focal Scripture.** *I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.* (Philippians 4:13. NIV)

**Focal Thought.** I am ashamed I can do no more for Him who has done so much for me. —George Whitefield (1714-1770) Anglican Itinerant Minister.

**More on Our 2017 Annual Meeting.** We were reminded the two best ways to gain entrance into villages and communities where Jesus is not known is through medical and agricultural missions. A substantial number of our missionaries around the world are now doing some agriculturally related work (including provision of pure water) that improves health, models the love of Jesus, and opens doors for the gospel. Our missionaries also focus on social injustice that helps reduce human trafficking and suffering.

**Our Alternative to ISIS.** Some of the work we support is in Muslim communities, which provides opportunities to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ who taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our projects provide a very different perspective from the radical Islamic message provided by a small segment of the Muslim population. Though we do not have projects in Bangladesh, Baptist Missionaries there report that Muslims in that country recently beheaded three national Christian pastors. Love, not hate, is the solution to the strong rhetoric being spread by many followers of Allah. All projects that we sponsor are integrated with activities of our International Mission Board.

**Plans for 2018 Annual Meeting.** The leadership of your Fellowship is already making plans for the 2018 annual meeting that will be held in the Bethel Baptist Church of West Monroe on Saturday, January 27, 2018. The pastor, Dr. Dennis Hensley, has a fervent passion for missions. He has placed a large glass jug on the platform near the pulpit with a sign that reads, "Change for goats." Their goal is to collect \$2,000 in coins during 2017. A goat can save the lives of an entire family by providing milk, cheese, and yogurt, as well as meat from male offspring.

Most of the funds collected for the goat project are provided by children of the church, which promotes a passion for missions and for helping people who are both poor in body and in spirit. This is a model that other churches, Sunday school classes, and organizations can use to promote mission awareness.

**The Greatest Need of Your Fellowship.** It should not surprise anyone that our greatest need is for additional members who have a heart for missions and for helping those who are desperately poor improve their status, both in this world and in the eternity to follow. Please promote the work of your Fellowship. Feel free to make copies of this Newsletter and distribute to those who might become interested in helping us help those who are often powerless to help themselves.

Funds for projects are assigned to areas where the darkness is greatest, that is, where the gospel has not gone before, and where despair and hopelessness are all too prevalent. We hope you will consider promoting meetings in your church to which representatives of your Fellowship can be invited to make presentations to explain the vital role of agricultural missions.

**Your Fellowship's Mission.** To promote self-help projects aimed at alleviating poverty, reducing hunger, and advancing the cause of Christ. (Our ultimate mission is to make disciples who will grow up in the faith and make even more disciples.)

**Your Fellowship's Motto.** People do not care how much we know until they first know how much we care.

**Project Support.** Following are examples of projects individuals, classes, or churches can support to provide a helping hand to those who are poor, hungry, and in need of Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord:

**Egg incubation facilities for a family or village.**

**Rabbit project for a family.**

**Chicken project for a family.**

**Goat project for a family.**

**Sheep project for a family.**

**Dairy heifer project for a family.**

**Vegetable garden project for a family.**

**Drip irrigation for a family.**

**Small greenhouse for a family.**

**Water filters to provide pure water to families.**

*Please help us help those in desperate to help themselves by making your check payable to Louisiana Baptist Foundation and sending it to P.O. Box 120, Homer, LA 71040. Indicate the funds are for Ag Missions. All donations are tax deductible and 100% of your contributions go directly to the mission field because the Executive Committee pays all expenses for operating the Fellowship.*