

Alabama Centers

The Gatekeeper



New Orleans Baptist
Theological Seminary
www.nobts.edu
October 2013

Special Points of Interest:

- **Preview Weekend**—Visit the main campus in New Orleans for Preview Weekend, October 24-26, 2013. Cost: \$25, all inclusive.
- **Alabama Baptist Convention**—November 12-13, 2013 at Whitesburg Baptist Church in Huntsville. For more info visit www.alsbom.org/upcoming-events/convention
- **Defend the Faith Conference**—Apologetics Conference January 5-11, 2014 in New Orleans. For more info visit www.nobtsapologetics.com/defendthefait
- **Greer-Heard Forum**—February 21-22, 2014 in New Orleans. For more info visit www.greerheard.com.

NEW CERTIFICATE CENTER @ SOUTH ROEBUCK

By Zach Kendrick

Birmingham—New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has a desire to make “theological education accessible.” We do this in several ways: (1) traditional classes offered on campus in New Orleans, (2) Extension Centers, (3) Hybrid

classes, (4) Internet classes. For more than twenty-five years NOBTS has provided theological education through extension centers. The extension center system provides more accessibility for pastors and vocational ministers to get a quality theological education closer to where they live. NOBTS maintains more than twenty hubs, extension centers, and certificate centers in five states across the southeast. In Alabama, NOBTS has several extension and certificate centers. Starting in January 2014 NOBTS will start a new certificate center here in Birmingham. The new center will meet at South Roebuck Baptist Church in partnership with the Birmingham Baptist Association. Under the leadership of director Michael Eth-

ridge the certificate center will offer a fully accredited 18 hour undergraduate certificate in Church Leadership. The program is “designed to advance the leadership skills of individuals through formal course work that trains and develops existing and potential leaders in the local



church.” It addresses the needs of three audiences: (1) pastors called into ministry, who possess little formal theological training, and are in need of education, (2) individual members of local congregations who desire formal education to advance their skills and equip them for ministry, and (3) individuals who are potential church planters. A maximum of 12

credit hours may be transferred to the Associate degree program and a maximum of 18 credit hours may be transferred into the Bachelor’s degree program of Leavell College. Two 8 week class terms start in 2014. The winter term meets from January 7 through February 15 on

Tuesday and Thursday nights. Two classes will be offered: Baptist Doctrine, and Developing Leaders in the Church. The spring term meets from March 11 through April 29 on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Two classes will be offered: Intro to Christian

Education, and Evangelism. For more information on the new certificate program please contact Michael Ethridge at (205)836-7205. Additional Alabama Centers are being considered for full Graduate and/or Bachelors programs in Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, and Rainsville. For more information on NOBTS extension centers please visit www.nobts.edu/extensions.

**Dr. Ron Pate, Director
Birmingham Center**
The Church at Brook Hills
3145 Brook Highland Pkwy.
Birmingham, AL 35242

Phone: (205) 313-7800
Cell: 205-516-4535
E-mail: rpate@nobts.edu

**Zach Kendrick, Assistant & Library
Birmingham Center**
Email: bhamasst.nobts@gmail.com

**Dr. Teman Knight, Director
Montgomery Center**
Heritage Baptist Church
1849 Perry Hill Road
Montgomery, Alabama 36106

Phone: (334) 279-9976
E-mail: Teman@HBCM.net

**Rev. Zach Richards, Director
Rainsville Center**
First Baptist Church, Rainsville
223 Church Ave
Rainsville, AL 35986

Phone: (256) 706-2478
Email: nealnobts@gmail.com

If you have any ideas for articles, interviews, or news that you would like to include in the newsletter please contact Zach Kendrick at bhamasst.nobts@gmail.com



BIRMINGHAM CENTER

Student ID: If you **DO NOT** have a student ID please see Zach to get one made. Also if you have a current ID please see Zach to have yours validated for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Spring 2014: The Spring 2014 schedule is up on the bulletin board in the office. The schedule for the 2014-2015 academic year will be available soon. Keep watching the website so you can plan ahead!

Chapel: Who would you like to hear speak in chapel? Through the month of October we will be collecting names of students to speak in chapel. Please vote for **ONE** student by email (bhamasst.nobts@gmail.com) or bring it to the office. Voting ends October 31st. Chapel will be held early in the Spring 2014 semester.

Snack Table: Please remember that all snacks and drinks are 50 cents. Coffee is now \$.50 per day.

Social Media: Like us on Facebook (NOBTS Birmingham) we post announcements and available ministry positions. Also follow us on Twitter @nobtsbirmingham.

MONTGOMERY CENTER

Schedule: For Spring 2014 class schedules at the Montgomery Center, please visit the extension center website <http://www.nobts.edu/Extensions/CentralAlabama.html>

RAINSVILLE CENTER

Fall 2013: Classes are now in session at the Northeast Alabama Center in Rainsville.

MINISTRY POSITIONS

Youth Pastor: Grace Baptist Church in Fayette, AL is currently seeking a Part-Time Youth Pastor. If you are interested please contact Dr. Brad Doss at preacherdoss@msn.com

Youth Pastor: Whorton Bend Baptist Church in Gadsden is looking for a new youth pastor. If you are interested, please send your resume to Scott Mayo at smay@farmersagent.com or mail it to 2820 Whorton Bend Road, Gadsden, AL 35901

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 12-13—Alabama Baptist Convention
Nov 25-29—THANKSGIVING (No Classes)
Dec 5— Finals for Thursday Classes
Dec 9—Finals for Monday Classes
Dec 10—Finals for Tuesday Classes
Dec 14—Graduation
Jan 5-10—Defend the Faith Conference
Feb 21-22—Greer Heard Forum (NOLA)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for a good semester of ministry training.
Pray for fellow students and professors who are leaders of churches. May they lead well.
Pray for our churches, associations, state, and nation.

If you have a prayer request please send it to bhamasst.nobts@gmail.com

MEET MONTGOMERY CENTER STUDENT, KEETON BLAKENEY

In this month's edition of *The Gatekeeper* we would like you to meet a Montgomery Center student, Keeton Blakeney. (Special thanks to Alana Knight for the interview.)

Where did you grow up?
I lived in New Orleans until I was 16 years old.

Briefly describe your testimony.
My dad came home one night from a revival and shared one of those cool, blue, eternal life tracks and I understood my need for Jesus as my Savior.

Briefly describe your call to ministry.
I understood God was calling me to full-time ministry at 18 years old. My call was confirmed as a freshman at Samford University.



Are you married and do you have any children?
I have been married for 13 years to Shelley. We have 3 kids, Tinsley (10), Chapel (6), Brantley (3).

Where do you currently serve in ministry?
I am the student pastor at Taylor Road Baptist Church. I have been there for four years.

What is your favorite hobby?
Golf and selling things on Amazon

What has been your favorite class so far in seminary?
I enjoyed the Youth Ministry Institute with Dr. Allen Jackson

What was the last book you read?
Follow Me by David Platt

What are you hoping to experience in seminary?
I am hoping to always continue learning and being the best husband, dad, learner, leader, teacher, and person that I can be to the glory of God.

If you know of anyone that you would like to be featured in The Gatekeeper, please contact Zach at bhamasst.nobts@gmail.com



Visit us on
Facebook

