

Festival Banner



*Partnering with Churches & Ministries
To reach the Unreached by taking the
GOSPEL beyond the church walls*



JULY 4-5-6

"It's as Hot as the Fourth of July' ... oh, IT IS the fourth of July." That's a comment heard at Little River Park as 'Thunder in the Park' got underway. Yes, it was three very hot days but they were days of blessings from the Lord as nine people gave their life to Christ and others were renewed in their commitment. Just this week a pastor from that area called to say that a teenager had come to their church last week saying he got saved at Thunder in the Park!



There was indeed the sound of thunder when Terry Billings fired up the *Heaven Bound Mud Bogger* several times each day! A crowd would gather at the makeshift mud pit to watch him roar through the mud. Then he would stop in the middle of the pit as though he were stuck, step out and stand on the side rails to speak about how he might need someone to help pull him out. He shared how we all get stuck in

life sometimes and need Jesus to rescue us. He told how God reached down and rescued him from a life of alcoholism and gave him a new life both here and eternally.



It was an inventive and impressive way to share the Gospel and there were many who responded.

There were also great times of worship led by Chris McDaniel, singer/song writer, formerly of Confederate Railroad as he shared his God-story. Many volunteers came from the area churches to give out cold water, serve free hot dogs, slushies, hand fans, and other free items which gave opportunities to share the love of Christ. Extra accolades go to Enon

Baptist Church as they went above and beyond sharing Christ in many ways.

A highlight of the three days was watching a young man that responded to the gospel the first day. He returned the second day, first thing in the morning, ready to serve. He did



anything a s k e d including standing for over an hour with a s m a l l water hose

resoaking the mud pit. Then in the afternoon after conversation with a pastor, he asked if he could be baptized in the lake. So at the conclusion of the last worship time, we "gathered at the river" (or lake) to see the testimony of giving his life to Christ. He returned the third day and brought his special needs brother with him. Volunteers were able to show the love of Christ to him too.

*"And these are but the outer fringe of His works; how faint the whisper we hear of Him! Who then can understand the **thunder** of His power?" Job 26:14 NIV*

PRAYER: The Strategy

**"Prayer is not a substitute for action.
It is an action for which there is no substitute."**

- Pray for the follow-up discipling of those who responded at Thunder in the Park
- John's visits with pastors and associational directors in discussing future events
- Tentative Atmore event
- Upcoming Haiti trip [date TBD]
- **PRAISE TO GOD:** John and Jeanette's grandsons were born 5 weeks early but are now home and growing strong.

Elias James & Isaac Jordan
Hayes ~ August 1, 2019

In Loving Memory

*Across Festivals has received a
memorial gift
In Memory of Mrs. Susan Huguley
and Mr. John Smith
by Mr. Jon Huguley*

ACROSS FESTIVALS

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*Please pray if God would have
you support this ministry.*

*P.O. Box 240277
Montgomery, AL 36124*



From the heart

Waiting On You Lord . . .

*I'm waiting, I'm waiting on You, Lord;
And I'm hopeful, I'm waiting on You, Lord;
Though it's painful, But patiently, I will wait!*

*I will move ahead, bold and confident,
Taking every step in obedience;
While I'm waiting, I will serve You!
While I'm waiting, I will worship You!
While I'm waiting, I will not faint,
I'll be running the race,
Even while I wait!*

*I'm waiting, I'm waiting on You, Lord!
And I'm peaceful;
I'm waiting on You, Lord!
Though it's not easy, No;
But faithfully, I will wait;
Yes, I will wait!!!! (Credit: John Waller)*

Over the course of the past eight months, this has been my theme song. My spirit is alive with anticipation! There are many things I know I am anticipating, but My spirit is anticipating something so much more alive in ***"Anticipation of the Lord's Activity!"*** The world is churning and groaning in ***"Anticipation of the Lord's Coming Again!"*** I agree with a Friend who shared that he is not looking for signs of His Coming anymore, but that he is listening for the ***"Sounds of the Trumpet!"***

Listen with me:

"Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of His understanding. He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagle. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint." Isaiah 40: 28-31 NLT

I have experienced His Presence in powerful ways as He has encouraged me, strengthened me, guided me, and so much more these eight months. He has allowed me to minister in such a variety of ways in events and beyond events. He has allowed me to preach with such power and conviction in the words He has given me. He has been with me in the low valleys and the high mountains. He has lifted me with His powerful love! Love lifted me! Love lifted me! The best is yet to come! I hope and pray that you are ***"Anticipating His Presence!"*** Our God is **Alive and Well and at Work!** Join Him and experience the aliveness of **Isaiah 40: 28-31!** Read it one more time!

Blessings,

... John



**Sharing the Gospel and Hearts Responding
Day Camps— Dream Field Farms**

Across Festivals

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NEW INDEPENDENT NON-PROFIT STATUS

After nearly two years of paper work and forms, then many long days and months of waiting, Across Festivals has been recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Across Festivals is grateful to have been a ministry under Alternatives Inc. for the past three years, and in previous years as a branch of Forrest Ministries. A board of directors is now active and giving direction to the work of Across Festivals. Board members are Matthew Marsh, Dr. Brian West, Jeff Bush, Mike Robinson, Chris Langley and Wade Rolison, who serves as board chairman.

The 'Alongside' Initiative

In March 2019 Across Festivals launched a campaign to raise funds needed to replace four tent sections, 50 double-headed tent stakes and 50 tent straps. The initial goal was \$30,600. That figure has been adjusted by the tent company to \$29,661. At the time of this printing \$21,048 has been received! Praise God for His provision given through His people! If you would like to know more, contact John Bush, or check the Alongside Initiative page at: AcrossFestivals.com.