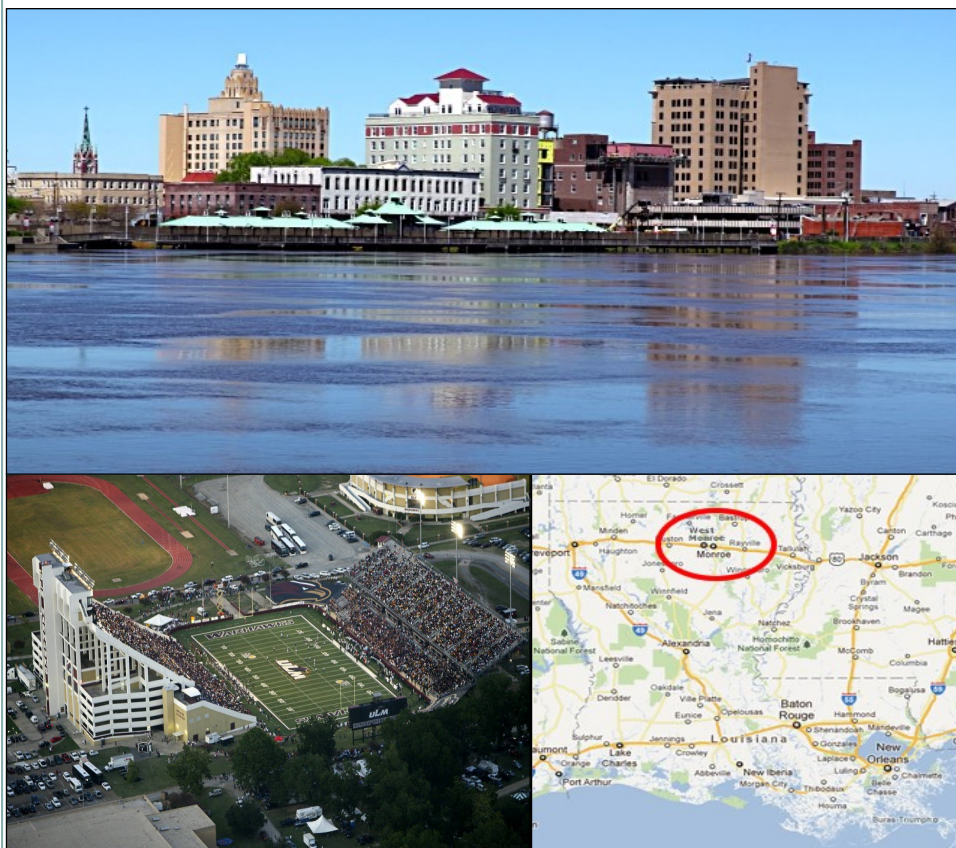




## Monroe & West Monroe - The Twin Cities

The Mission to North America committee of the Mississippi Valley Presbytery is desirous to plant a church in the Twin Cities area. Ouachita Parish, which encompasses Monroe and West Monroe, has a population of almost 150,000 people. It is also the home of The University of Louisiana Monroe, which has an enrollment of more than 8,000 students. Unfortunately, there is no PCA church in the metro area nor is there an RUF campus ministry at ULM. In fact, there are only 16 PCA churches in the entire state! We believe this is a wonderful opportunity that will be funded by, not only our committee, but the Mid-South PCA Church Planting Network. Would you pray about reaching Louisiana for Christ?



### DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2013, Forbes magazine said Monroe is one of its top 65 best small towns for businesses and careers due to potential job growth and quality of life criteria.
- Monroe, located on US Interstate 20, is 282 miles to New Orleans, 284 miles to Dallas, 325 miles to Memphis., and 122 miles to Jackson.
- CenturyLink and Chase, as well as ULM, are major employers in Monroe. IBM has recently announced they are building a technology center.
- Monroe is a busy place for children. The Louisiana Purchase Zoological Park has 440 animals on 82 acres of land. It is also the home of the Northeast Louisiana Children's Museum. ULM offers multiple camps throughout the summer for kids of all ages!



## LOUISIANA LAGNIAPPE

Lagniappe is a popular word in Louisiana that means something given gratuitously. Our presbytery is praying for a new church that will boldly proclaim in this unique and special culture a saving God who gives gratuitously to His people. We are praying for a family that will seek out the unchurched and dechurched with the gospel of grace. We are praying for a church planting movement in Louisiana!

*Pictures: Riverwalk Market (top) ULM (bottom)*

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*“The Mid-South PCA Church Planting Network is thrilled to assist Mississippi Valley Presbytery. We believe Monroe is a wonderful place and in dire need of a PCA work.” Rev. Hunter Townsend Brewer, Ministry Coordinator*

*“Church planting is exciting and important work. We pray the Lord will do great things in Monroe!” Rev. Eric Mabbott, MNA Chairman and pastor of Bailey Presbyterian Church*

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### THE PRESBYTERY OF MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Our presbytery spans central Mississippi and northeast Louisiana. We are composed of large, medium, and small churches. Our congregations are found in rural settings, small towns, suburbia, and the city. There are three RUF campus ministries in our bounds (Jackson State, Mississippi College, and Belhaven University). We also have a close relationship with Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

One location in Monroe that has been considered is Sterlington. This is a fast growing suburban area near the new CenturyLink Technological park and where IBM will build. It is ten miles from the University of Louisiana Monroe. In 2015, it was titled the fastest growing city in the state.

Monroe has been described as a delicious gumbo. It is a dash of French culture, a spoonful of Cajun, and a pinch of the Bible Belt. In other words, it is similar in some sense to New Orleans but in other respects it is similar to Jackson and Memphis, except smaller.



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