

## Troup Baptist Association

### Not Perfect - Just Changed

“As a Christian, I may not be able to live a perfect life, but I can live a changed life.” Those words somehow made their way out of my mouth this past Sunday as I was preaching. They had to have been “God ordained!” Why do I say that? Because I’m not smart enough to come up with something that profound on my own!

Indeed, living the Christian life is not about being perfect. It never has been and never will. There has never been but one Perfect Person - and humanity nailed Him to a cross. If we had the capability to live a perfect life - then everything about Jesus - His virgin birth, sinless life, substitutionary death, burial, and resurrection - was an exercise in futility. If we can do it on our own, then we don’t need Him and all He did or was - means absolutely nothing!

Romans 3:10(KJV) teaches us, “.... There is none righteous, no, not one.” And Romans 3:23 (KJV) states, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” And in Romans 7:19(KJV) the great Apostle Paul states, “For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.” So, if the great Apostle Paul couldn’t make the grade - then that certainly disqualifies you and me! But while we cannot live a perfect life (And that realization is not a “license to sin”) - we can live a changed life.

I have a problem with anybody who professes to have had a life-changing encounter with Jesus - whose life never changes! I recall the testimony of a dear preacher friend of mine, Bro. Roy Marshall, who said, “The night I got saved, even my dog knew something had changed about me. When I came onto the front porch and didn’t kick him and cuss him, he didn’t know what to

do! He didn’t know what. But he knew something was different!”

I am reminded of the Biblical story about Jacob wrestling with the Angel of God. All night long they wrestled. When the morning began to break the Angel instructed Jacob to let him go. Jacob replied, “Not unless you bless me.” And with that, the Angel of God reached down and touched his hip. From that moment until the day he died, Jacob walked with a limp. The encounter forever changed him! Perhaps as he made his way home his neighbors saw him coming from a distance and thought that he looked like Jacob, but he didn’t walk like Jacob. Perhaps his children saw him coming and thought that he looked like their daddy, but he didn’t walk like their daddy. And maybe even his wife saw him coming and thought that he looked like her husband, but he didn’t walk like her husband. My point is that when

we have an encounter with Jesus – He forever changes us!

The problem today is the same as it has always been. People claim to have had a life-changing encounter with Jesus. Yet, their foul mouth doesn’t change. Their consumption of alcohol and drugs doesn’t change. The adulterous relationship they’re having doesn’t change. Their non-church attendance and participation doesn’t change. And it is impossible to distinguish their lifestyle from the lifestyle of someone who makes no such claim.

Yes, it’s true. I cannot live a perfect life. God doesn’t expect me to. However, I can live a changed life. Guess what? So can you! And as a Christian - God expects it from us!

I close with one simple observation: **If nothing changed - nothing happened!** (Think about it!)

Brother Aaron

# News

**Troup Baptist Association Annual Meeting** - was held on Monday, October 19, 2015. Moderator, Rev. Terry Rainwater presided over the meeting. There were about 109 people in attendance and 31 churches were represented.



A large crowd filled the sanctuary for the 2015 Troup Baptist Association Annual Meeting.

**Troup Baptist Association**

**Mission Statement:**

The Troup Baptist Association is a Spiritual, educational, and community resource that, through cooperative fellowship, equips pastors, staff, and churches as they seek to fulfill The Great Commission of Jesus Christ.



Stephanie Walker presented the musical prelude prior to the Annual Meeting.



Rev. Jerome Shipman of New Macedonia brought the message: "Without Jesus, I Have No Message."



Above left: "A woman's idea of teamwork!" says Brother Aaron!



Above right: Volunteers Kathy Trim & Pastor Terry Rainwater of Highland Baptist serving the meal. Thank you Sister Cookie Rainwater (and Pastor Terry) and all volunteers from Highland for cooking and serving the delicious meal for the Annual Meeting. Also, thank you to the churches who donated food for the meal and to Mountville Church for their landscaping work at the Troup Baptist Association office.



Left: Rev. Stacy Dyer, State Missionary for the GBC spoke to the group about the GBC Cooperative Program and how many souls have been saved as a result of the various ministries that are supported through our giving to the Cooperative Program.



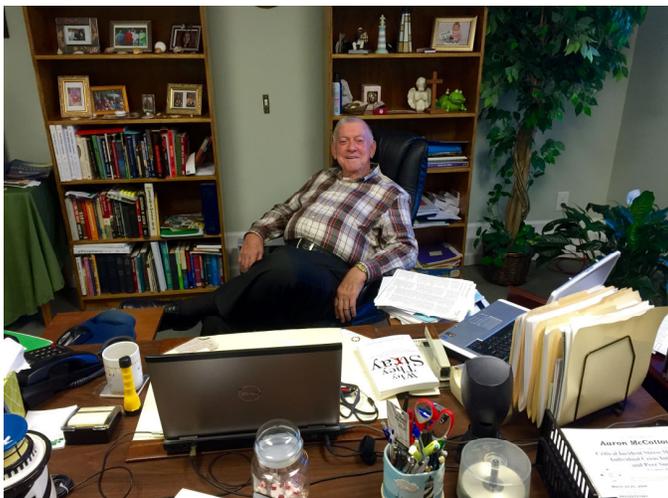
Approximately 100 people were served a delicious hot meal of Vegetable Soup, Cornbread, Salad, Fruit and Dessert prior to the Annual Meeting.

## News (continued)

**Association** - Keith Hamilton Financial Workshops sponsored by the Troup Baptist Association and The Georgia Baptist Convention were held on Tuesday, October 27, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Session One focused on the Church Retirement Plan, which is available to church employees. After the meeting, everyone enjoyed a BBQ lunch catered by Sloppy Pig Catering of LaGrange. The topic of Session Two, held at 7 p.m. was "Handling the Church's Income Correctly."



Dr. Keith Hamilton of GBC Church Financial Services led both sessions of the Financial Workshops and answered many questions for those in attendance.



I left my office unlocked during the Annual Meeting and Pastor Jackie Taylor had to try on "the big chair".  
~ Brother Aaron

### Brother Aaron's Suggested Reading

#### Why They Stay

Helping Parents and Church Leaders  
Make Investments That Keep Children and Teens  
Connected to the Church for a Lifetime

By Dr. Steve R. Parr & Dr. Tom Crites

**Association** - The 5th Annual Max New Memorial Singing was held at the Troup Baptist Association on Sunday, October 25, 2015. Featured singing groups were the Troup Community Choir accompanied by Renee Gantt on the piano and The Jonathans from Bremen, GA.



Associational Music Director, Stephanie Walker, leading the congregation at the Troup Baptist Association 5th Annual Max New Memorial Singing on October 25



The Troup Community Choir performed at the 5th Annual Max New Memorial Singing.



Troup Community Choir led by Brother Mike Phillips and accompanied by Renee Gantt on the piano

## News (continued)

**Baptist Tabernacle** - For the months of September & October they had a total of 19 baptized. "Thank God for each of these blessings." • October 25<sup>th</sup> was set aside for Pastor Appreciation Day. However, no amount of gifts, dinners, or money could show how much we love and appreciate our Pastor, Rev. Jimmy McMillian & Merle!!" "How Great Is Our God!!!" • The Food Closet served 933 individuals, disbursing 336 boxes of food, 378 meals and 150 snacks. The food closet is open every Thursday, except holidays, from 9am – 11am for anyone in need of food. The Coat Closet is in need of coats of all sizes. You may donate coats at anytime by placing them in the church drop off box behind the church. • As usual, Trunk or Treat was a huge success for thousands of kids & parents! This event is to reach out to our community and give children a safe alternative to Trick or Treating.

**Davidson** - Pastor David Cross of Grayhill Church of God preached at Davidson on Sunday, October 25. He was accompanied by his singers and members of his church. A wonderful sermon was delivered and beautiful songs were sung. "We are thankful to God for allowing them to visit with us." • A "Men's Visitation" outreach program began on Thursday, October 22. Please pray with us that it will be a huge success and that it brings Glory to God. • Davidson held Trunk or Treat on October 31 at 6 p.m. God's Word was taught, songs were sung in praise to God and treats were given out.

**Highland** - WMU began packing boxes for Project Joy to be given to participants of God's Bread Basket in the month of December. • On Sunday, October 25, they celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day with lunch following Morning Worship Service. • They had "Trunk and Treats" in the church parking lot on Saturday, October 31. Treats and Bible tracts were given to young trick-or-treaters from trunks of cars lining the parking lot.

**Hilyer** - had three Awana kids get saved and baptized at the church in September! • They also had a Gideon speaker during the month of September. • On October 25, they had a missionary, Kevin Noles visit and do the morning and evening services. Kevin and his family are leaving soon to be missionaries in Africa. • Trunk or Treat was held on Wednesday night, October 28, 2015 after Awanas and the midweek service.

**Lakeview** - Homecoming was held on October 11 with a special speaker, Evangelist Greg Morris, and a special music program by Johnny Brock. Lunch followed the morning services. A large crowd enjoyed the excellent message, the inspirational singing, and the delicious food provided by the ladies of the church. "Thank you to everyone who contributed to a great homecoming."

**Lakeview (continued)** - Revival was held October 12 - 14 and once again Evangelist Greg Morris presented energetic and motivational revival messages. Special singing was presented nightly to enhance the worship services. • The men of the church met on October 17 for breakfast and a meeting to discuss church projects.



Evangelist Greg Morris spoke during Homecoming and Revival Services at Lakeview.

**Roper Heights** - had a great month! One was saved, Tim Caruthers and two were baptized, Ashley Nixon and Carolyn Nixon. "We praise the Lord!"

**Teaver Road** - would like to thank Brother Aaron and Mrs. Marianne for their support and leadership as interim during a season in which our church was in need. Troup Baptist Association is blessed to have such caring people as their Associational Missionaries. • In October they participated in collecting socks for home missions supporting the Appalachian Regional Ministries. They will be delivered in November.



New Desire from Aragon, Georgia were special guests at Teaver Road Baptist Church. A wonderful time was had by all!

## News (continued)

**Wehadkee** - Their pastor ordered tracks and challenged each of them to give them out or leave them in different places that they go. • For the Gideons "Happy Birthday Jesus", they are collecting money to help buy Bibles to be given away at Christmas. • October has been Pastor Appreciation Month. Each Sunday their pastor was presented with different gifts. • On Sunday, October 18 they had a guest speaker, Rev. S. T. Janney to preach and sing for them along with his lovely wife. Lunch was served after the morning message. • They received one new member by transfer of letter on Sunday, October 18. "Welcome, Ms. Ann Traylor. We Love You." • Mr. & Mrs. Chris (Gayle) Studdard were honored at a reception on Saturday, October 24 from 3 until 5 p.m. at Wehadkee. Pineview Church joined with them for the occasion. "Congratulations on your wedding and we wish you the best life has to offer. Thank you for the good work that each of you do for both churches." Happy Thanksgiving from Wehadkee.

**Pastors' Prayer Fellowship** - Approximately 20 or more Pastors fellowship together each Monday at 11:00 a.m. at New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.



Sheriff James Woodruff was the guest speaker at the Pastors' Prayer Fellowship on October 12. He did an outstanding job! ~ Brother Aaron



Monday Morning Pastors' Prayer Fellowship held at New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 111 Johnson Street in LaGrange.

## Announcements

Thankful Hearts Sunday Offering provides funding for the Georgia Baptist Health Care Ministry Foundation. Troup Baptist Association receives grant money from this ministry to fund our Benevolent Counseling Ministry. The Georgia Baptist Health Care Ministry also provides funding for annual medical examinations for ministers and spouses .

**SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 15, 2015**



• Your designated offering on Thankful Heart Sunday and your regular budgeted gifts to the Health Care Ministry Foundation throughout the year provide for "the least of these" (Mt. 25:40).

Georgia Baptist Health Care Ministry Foundation Offering  
*Thankful Heart*  
**Sunday**

Providing a Christ-centered health care ministry to the people of Georgia



### Faith Bible Institute

The Troup Baptist Association serves as a satellite campus of **Faith Bible Institute**, a ministry of Rowland Road Baptist Church in Monroe, Louisiana.

**Early Registration for Spring Semester:  
(By November 15, 2015)**

For more information go to [www.troubaptist.org](http://www.troubaptist.org)  
Contact Jane Gottshall - director at (706) 957-7443  
or by email: [jane.gottshall@gmail.com](mailto:jane.gottshall@gmail.com)

### Association - Church Prayer List

**For November 2015, please pray for following churches:**

Week of November 1, 2015 - Creekside Baptist Church  
Week of November 8, 2015 - Davidson Baptist Church  
Week of November 15, 2015 - Dunson Baptist Church  
Week of November 22, 2015 - East LaGrange Baptist Church  
Week of November 29, 2015 - East Vernon Baptist Church

**For December 2015, please pray for following churches:**

Week of December 6, 2015 - Faith Believers Ministries  
Week of December 13, 2015 - First Hispanic Baptist Church  
Week of December 20, 2015 - First Baptist Church on the Square  
Week of December 27, 2015 - First Baptist Church - West Point

**Please pray for God to bless these churches  
and meet their needs.**

# Announcements (continued)

## **Baptist Tabernacle** - Tuesday nights have been set aside for **First Baptist on the Square** -

extra prayer nights. So many of their church people are fighting cancer or other sickness, that a "Circle of Prayer" has been started. They meet at the home of the person fighting a battle, circle their home and pray for God's touch in their lives. "There is POWER in Prayer!!" • The Awana Program continues each Wednesday night, except holiday weeks, at 6:30 pm for children ages 3 thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Awana programs help develop spiritually strong children who faithfully follow Jesus Christ. Hub Ministry is also on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm for 7<sup>th</sup> graders & up. All children are welcome to join in the fun & get on board for Christ!! • Hunters for Christ will have their annual Smoked Turkey and Smoked Boston Butt Sale during the month of November. If you are interested in purchasing a 12lb turkey or 8lb Boston butt for \$30.00 each, you may contact the church office or call Renee White at (706)402-5692. Baptist Tabernacle will be hosting its annual Veterans Day Dinner on November 5<sup>th</sup> at Whitesville Road Elementary School to honor all Veterans for their service. If you would like to attend this event, please inform Whitesville Road School. November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veterans Day and Baptist Tabernacle Church would like to thank all Veterans for their service & dedication to our country!! "God Bless America!!" Baptist Tabernacle is also hosting another Blood Drive on Monday, November 16th at 2:00 pm until 7:00 pm in our Family Life Center. "We are in need of donors! Giving blood gives life to so many people so please join us and save a life!!" "Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at Baptist Tabernacle Church!!"

### Hunters for Christ

#### Annual Smoked Turkey / Smoked Boston Butt Sale

- 12 lb smoked turkey \$30.
- 8 lb smoked Boston Butt \$30.

Pickup from 5 - 8 p.m. Wednesday, November 25  
@ Baptist Tabernacle  
849 South Davis Road, LaGrange, GA.

To purchase, please call the church office or  
Renee White at (706) 402-5692.

## **Davidson** -

Davidson invites you to join them for any of their services:

Sunday: Breakfast - 8:45 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Food Closet 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday: Prayer Night & Karaoke "Sing-A-Long" 6 p.m.

Davidson Baptist is located on Hwy 18, in West Point, Ga.



### Sister to Sister featuring The Ruppe Sisters

Thursday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m.

#### First Baptist on the Square Sanctuary

The SISTERS - Heather, Kim, and Valerie, have been nominated and have won awards from the Fan Awards, Dove Awards, and The Grammys. Sister to Sister tickets (\$10 each) are available for purchase from the First Baptist on the Square Church and Music offices or online at [www.fbclagrange.org](http://www.fbclagrange.org). Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Call (706) 884-5631 for more information.

**Grace** - November 6 & 7 will be the Annual Boston Butt sale. Contact Brotherhood members or the church office for tickets. Profits will benefit mission work.

**Highland** - will have their annual "Hanging of the Green" service on Sunday, November 29 at 11:00 a.m. during which they will sing Christmas carols and decorate the sanctuary with Christmas colors. • Highland will join other churches in their community for a night of singing and thanksgiving on Sunday, November 29 at 6:00 p.m. The service will be held at First United Methodist Church of Hogansville.

**Hilyer** - is on track to have 100 Christmas shoe boxes completed for the Operation Christmas Child. •

Thanksgiving dinner will be November 15 at 6 p.m. in the Family Life Center. • Fruit bags will be made and delivered to church members that are sick and shut in. • Plans are in the making for decorating the greens for Christmas and our Christmas program.

**Lakeview** - church members continue to prepare backpacks that will be given to local needy children for Christmas.

• Everyone is reminded to continue bringing donations for the Food Closet to help needy families. • For evening services on November 18, at 6:30 p.m., a Thanksgiving church-wide celebration is being planned. Everyone is welcome. • Exercise classes continue on Monday and Fridays at 10 a.m. at the church for any ladies who wish to participate.

**Roper Heights** - will have a "Fall Festival" on November 1 from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. A Hot Dog Supper will follow.

• On November 22, following the morning worship, they will have soup and chili for their Thanksgiving meal.

# Announcements (continued)

**Roper Heights** (continued) - The men are having good attendance at their Monday night meetings. They extend a welcome to all men to join them on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. • Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. and Church Worship at 10:45 a.m. each Sunday with Missions on Wednesday nights at 6:30. "Please come join us. God Bless."

**Teaver Road** - During November, they will participate in the Operation Christmas Child (shoe boxes). They will host a pancake breakfast on November 14 and following it the children will assemble boxes. The Annual Shoebox Parade will be Sunday, November 15. • They will provide fruit baskets for West Georgia Hospice at Thanksgiving to be given to families of hospice patients. • On Sunday, November 22, they will have their annual Thanksgiving meal starting at 6:00 p.m. • The Youth will be selling cheesecakes from the Atlanta Cheesecake Factory. Prices are one for \$15, two for \$25, and \$10 each for three or more. They will be delivered before Thanksgiving. To place an order, please call the church at (706) 882-5774 and leave a message for the Student Minister, Chase Williams. • The Youth will participate in Winter Extreme and Disciple Now.

**Wehadkee** - The next fifth Sunday will be November 29. We plan to invite our sister churches to join us in prayer at Wehadkee and look forward to good participation. • The church is collecting money for the Gideons. For each \$5 contribution, The Gideon's will be able to give a Bible away. These Bibles are for Happy Birthday, Jesus!

### Praise & Worship Leader

Mountville Baptist is looking for a part-time praise & worship leader - someone with a passion for Jesus Christ and a desire to serve Him through music & song!

If interested, contact Preacher Dwayne at (706) 881-4003.

### Bi-Vocational Music Minister

First Baptist Church in Lanett is in search of a bi-vocational music minister. Interested persons should contact Paula Monerief @ (334) 644-3490 or Pastor Ronnie Jordan @ (334) 644-2124

A description of duties is available upon request. Resumes can be mailed or delivered to Lanett First Baptist Church, 701 S. 6th St., Lanett, AL 36863



**DARKNESS to LIGHT**  
END CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

## Darkness to Light

Saturday, November 7  
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

hosted by

**Western Heights Baptist Church**

Darkness to Light offers an evidence-informed, two-hour training curriculum called Stewards of Children, providing adults with the training to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

For more information:

[www.twincedar.org/program/darkness-to-light/](http://www.twincedar.org/program/darkness-to-light/)  
or call Western Heights Baptist Church (706) 882-2545.

THE SUITES AT



## Poplar Creek

SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY  
LaGrange, Georgia

A special thanks to Patrick Crews and Poplar Creek Senior Living Community 114 Old Airport Road in LaGrange, Georgia for being the corporate sponsor of the 2014 Troup Baptist Association Annual Meeting.

For more information call (706) 845-1500 or visit [www.poplarcreekassistedliving.com](http://www.poplarcreekassistedliving.com)

Save the Date! Tuesday, December 8, 2015 @ 6 pm

Pastors' & Wives' Christmas Party  
At Baptist Tabernacle

### Happy Birthday November

- 2 Rev. Jerome Hicks
- 16 Rev. Steve Sexton, Bethel

### Happy Birthday December

- 5 Mrs. Stacey Hardigree, Rosemont
- 6 Rev. James (Jamie) Kelley, Glenn
- 9 Rev. Doug Bingham, Unity
- 20 Rev. Andy Buchanan, Franklin Road
- 22 Rev. Bill Bryant
- 31 Rev. Wesley Boatman

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 Daylight Saving Time ends - Turn clock back 1 hour
- 2 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Richard King
- 9 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Doug Bingham
- 16 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Jim Cheney
- 18 Church Planters' Network Association Office 9am-12 noon
- 23 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Bobby Bozeman
- 23 No Prayer Team Meeting
- 25 - 27 GBC & Troup Baptist Assoc. closed for Thanksgiving
- 30 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia S. T. Janney

**Note: Prayer Team meets at association office Mondays at 5 pm.  
Faith Bible Institute meets at association office Tuesdays at 6:30 pm.**

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 7 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia
- 8 Pastors' & Wives' Christmas Party at Baptist Tabernacle 6-9pm
- 14 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia
- 21 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia
- 21 No Prayer Team Meeting
- 28 No Pastors' Prayer Fellowship
- 28 No Prayer Team Meeting
- 24 - 31 GBC & Troup Baptist Association closed for Christmas

**Note: Prayer Team meets at association office Mondays at 5 pm.  
Faith Bible Institute meets at association office Tuesdays at 6:30 pm.**

# Happy Thanksgiving!

## *On The Lighter Side*

A Football team was on the field during practice, when to their surprise, a big turkey suddenly walked up to the coach and demanded a tryout. "Are you crazy," hollered the coach, "we don't give tryouts to turkeys." Before he knew it the turkey started dashing towards the football and made a fantastic catch. "That was amazing", exclaimed the coach "I have never seen anything like that! How much do you want for a year?" "Don't worry about money," said the turkey, "let me just ask you something, does the season go past thanksgiving?!"

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