

Troup Baptist Association

Salvation is Free - But it Ain't Cheap!

It cost nothing to surrender your life to Jesus and become a Christian. Salvation is free. However, we should never make the mistake of equating "free" with "cheap." Although it costs us nothing, it cost the Son of God His life. Free? Yes! Cheap? No way!

You can apply the same way of thinking to ministry. Although salvation is free, ministry isn't cheap. Effective ministry will cost you something! I once heard a radio preacher tell his audience, "This program was made possible today because 'somebody prayed' and 'somebody paid!'" I thought to myself, "Amen!"

I remember hearing a pastor encouraging his congregation to give financially as he was about to receive a "love offering" for a Southern Gospel quartet that had sang at his church that evening. He said, "You can look around and see all the equipment this group brought with them.

(They had a live band) And you saw that big bus parked in the parking lot. Now, I don't want to insult your intelligence by telling you that all of that cost money. However, I do want to remind you that when they leave here tonight and pull up to the pump at the truck stop, they can't fill that bus with diesel fuel and walk in to the cashier and tell them, 'Jesus paid it all!' No! They have to pay with money just like everybody else!"

Years ago I heard an illustration about two old men sitting on a bench talking. They were members of the same church. Evidently the church was in some sort of fundraising campaign. One of the gentlemen looked at the other and said, "You know, all I ever hear out of the church is: money, money, money! They always want money for something. If it's not for this, it's for that. And if it's not for that, it's for something else. Money, money, money! Ugh! That's all I hear! The other gentleman, with a

very contemplative look on his face, replied, "Yeah, it kinda reminds me of years ago when my boy was born. My wife and I didn't have much money, but that didn't change the fact that she was constantly telling me that we needed to buy stuff for that boy. It went from diapers, to baby food, to baby shoes, doctors' visits, clothes, baseball gloves, football cleats, to cars, and everything else in between. That boy cost me a small fortune! But you know what? My boy got killed in a tragic accident when he was about nineteen years old. We buried him in the church cemetery. Now, my boy doesn't cost me anything." The moral of the story is this: If something is alive and worth having, it is going to cost you!

Why I am telling you all this? Because even at the association level, the same principle applies! Salvation is free – but ministry ain't cheap! That's why you've been hearing from me regarding the financial need we have regarding replacing two sections of roofing and

making repairs to the front entrance of the association office. (By the way, I have asked all our churches to give financially at some level to support this. Many have. Many have not. Do you know how much your church gave? You may want to ask!) This is also why I am encouraging you to support our Children's Home collection this month. And this is why I will be asking you to give to support the back to school backpacks again this year for our partnership school, Berta Weathersbee. Again, salvation is free, but ministry ain't cheap!

Whether it is your personal ministry, the ministry of your church, or even the ministry of the association, a ministry that is alive and worthwhile - will cost you something!

So, I encourage you to give financially, with a cheerful heart, to support the work of the Lord!

Brother Aaron

We encourage you to "like" us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/troubaptist

News

Association - A "local" National Day of Prayer service was held on Thursday, May 3 at the Biblical History Center in LaGrange. Emcee for the service was Joseph Miller of LaGrange College. Landon Traylor, Eagle Scout Troop 326, led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Angela Anderson, Randy Hardigree, Katie Mercer Van Schoor, Cliff Meeks, and Marshall McCoy offered prayers for various areas of our nation. Eddie Robinson provided special music and led the group in singing "God Bless America." Joseph Miller then led the group of attendees in a special prayer for our Nation.



Association - On Thursday, May 10, pastors from the Pine Mountain and Troup Baptist Associations met at the Whistling Pig restaurant in Pine Mountain, Georgia to hear updates from Alan Boston and Al Gilbert of the North American Mission Board.



Association - The Annual WMU Spring Luncheon was held Saturday, April 28 at Grace Baptist Church. The tables were beautifully decorated in spring colors. Associational Missionary, Aaron McCollough attended and brought the opening prayer and blessing on the meal. Guest speakers for the event were Pepper Ellis-Hagebak, storyteller; Theresa Miller, Regional WMU Coordinator; Missy Garrett, missions message; and Gina Spradlin, special music. The women enjoyed a meal together and door prizes. A love offering of \$417.00 was received for the Georgia Baptist Children's Homes. This event is organized each year by the Troup Baptist Association WMU Leadership Team: Judy King & Dottie Henson (Lakeview), Linda Wright & Barbara Driver (Grace), Linda Scott (Rosemont), and Gina Spradlin (Roper Heights).



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.

Flat Shoals Salem Road Baptist Church in Pine Mountain, Georgia held their 189th Homecoming on May 6, 2018. Stephanie Walker was the guest soloist for the Homecoming services. Associational Missionary, Aaron McCollough preached the morning message. After the morning service, a great fellowship meal was enjoyed by all. Rev. Randy Warren (Carolyn) is the pastor of Flat Shoals Salem Road.



Update on Roof Repair Project: Because of your generous financial response, we now have enough money in hand to "start" the first phase of this project - the flat roof portions of the building. We have awarded the contract and as soon as the weather permits, the roof repair will begin! If you have not donated yet, I urge you to do so. I would love to have 100% participation by our association churches. Phase two will involve building repairs related to water leaks around the steeple.

~ Brother Aaron



Berta Weathersbee
Principal Willie Cooks
presents a plaque to the
Troup Baptist Association
in recognition of their
Partnership in Education.
L-R: Marianne & Rev. Aaron
McCollough & Mr. Cooks

Association - Church Prayer List

For June 2018, please pray for following churches:

Week of June 3, 2018 - New Macedonia Missionary Baptist
Week of June 10, 2018 - Northside Baptist Church
Week of June 17, 2018 - Open Range Cowboy Church
Week of June 24, 2018 - Praise & Prayer Ministry

For July 2018, please pray for following churches:

Week of July 1, 2018 - Reeds Chapel Baptist Church
Week of July 8, 2018 - Roper Heights Baptist Church
Week of July 15, 2018 - Rosemont Baptist Church
Week of July 22, 2018 - Second Baptist Church
Week of July 29, 2018 - Shoal Creek Baptist Church

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

News (continued)

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - During May, the Food Closet gave out 348 boxes of food and 631 meals. Also 120 backpacks were given to children for week-end food. The Clothes Closet served 205 individuals. These ministries are open every Thursday from 9 - 11am. • On Mother's Day, May 13, BTC honored the mothers during the worship service and gave them devotional books entitled "Be Still and Know".

• The Awanas ceremony was held May 16. "Thanks to all our volunteers who did an outstanding job." • The puppet ministry began on May 23 with Mrs. Carolyn Evans teaching. • The graduates were honored on Sunday, May 27. "Congratulations to all graduates of 2018." • Also on May 27, those who gave their lives so that we may be free were remembered.

Concord - Mark Wade and Robert Elzey were ordained as deacons at Concord Baptist Church on May 20.



Above L-R: Deacon Mark Wade and Arlene Wade, Debbie Elzey and Deacon Robert Elzey of Concord

Davidson - James Clark, newly ordained minister and member of Davidson, delivered his first message outside of Davidson to the members of The Church on the Rock on Sunday, May 20. The message was "Walking in Peace with God" and the Holy Spirit was there with us. "Praises to God for this young man who continues to grow in God! Pray with us that God continues to lead and guide him as he studies and shares God's Word with us." • Members Jimmy Fuller and Bobby Kent were ordained as deacons on Sunday, May 27. "Please pray with us that they continue to seek God's direction in their new position." • All of us enjoyed Mother's Day while spending our day in God's house. What could be better than hearing a God message? All mothers attending services were given a rose and some received special recognition. (See photo below of Davidson's mothers)



Davidson Mothers

Dunson - was blessed with 23 mothers for a special Mother's Day Service and slide presentation. • One new member was welcomed in May, Carol Smith. • Josh and Pam Bagley took 12 youth to RUSH in Thomaston and enjoyed team building and great praise and worship time. • There were two tables of domino players at the monthly game of Mexican Train Dominoes. They enjoyed good food and fellowship. Any adults are welcome to join us on the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm in the fellowship hall for game night.



Mother's Day at Dunson



At Left:

Josh Bagley leading several of Dunson's youth through a team building exercise at RUSH in Thomaston Ga.

Highland - Mother's Day was observed during Morning Worship Service on May 13. All Mothers were given a gift from the WMU. Also recognized were Mackenzie Smith, Youngest Mother, and Gloria Prather, Oldest Mother.

• The WMU participated in Baby Bottle Boomerang for First Choice Women's Center. Baby bottles were filled with money and will be delivered to First Choice Women's Center.

• High School Graduate, Lauryn Pearce was recognized on May 20. She was presented a Bible and a daily devotional from the church.



Gloria Prather with Pastor Terry Rainwater



Left: Mackenzie Smith (R) was recognized as youngest mother
Right: Lauryn Pearce (graduate) with Pastor Terry Rainwater



News (continued)

Hilyer - Awanas are winding down for the school year. They celebrated everyone's birthday on Wednesday night, May 16 and ended the year with a water fun night on May 30. "We have had a great year and are looking forward to next season."

- On Mother's Day, the church presented gifts to the oldest mother in attendance (Mrs. Irene Ketchum), the mothers with the most children present (Mrs. Ann Brawner & Mrs. Nita Jeffcoat - both with 8), and the youngest mother (Mrs. Brittney Arrington). A gift was also presented to Mrs. Wanda Moore, the preacher's wife, for being the leading mother of the church.

Lakeview - Congratulations to Pastor Lamar Truitt who received his Master of Divinity degree from Louisiana Baptist Theological Seminary on Friday, May 11! • A Cinco de Mayo work day was held at the church on May 5; thanks to all who helped and thanks to Carol Truitt for a delicious homemade breakfast. • WMU met May 22 with hostess Sally Pike planning the menu, providing a devotion, and leading the ladies in painting rocks with inspirational and uplifting messages.

- Lakeview member, Judy King was chosen as the WellStar's 2018 Volunteer of the Year for her work at the hospital gift shop and Florence Hand Home where she gives manicures, helps with Bingo, and delivers mail to the residents. Judy and her husband Richard also lead a devotion there.
- Thanks to Ron Helton and Richard King for painting the handicapped ramp and to Sally Pike and Ginny Helton for planting Easter lilies around the three crosses in the church yard.



L-R: Inspirational Painted Rocks, and Judy King, WellStar West Georgia Medical Center's 2018 Volunteer of the Year

New Hope (LaGrange) - May was a busy month at New Hope. Sisters of Hope enjoyed having Dr. Margaret Schaufler as their guest speaker on May 7. After a delicious meal together, Dr. Schaufler was very informative and helpful as she answered questions concerning women's health issues. • An end-of-year party was held for the children at the home of Troy & Rita Karr. They enjoyed swimming and a hot dog supper. "We appreciate those who work with our children." • Jonathan Jordan from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board was our guest for Sunday School and worship on Sunday, May 20. He gave information and suggestions on how to grow our Sunday School.

- The Youth Rally on Sunday evening May 20 was well attended. There was praise music and special speakers. "We thank Randy & Christie for their love for our youth and pray God's blessings on them."

New Hope (LaGrange) - The Axis Youth of the month is Peyton Hughes. She is a 7th grader at Long Cane Middle School. Peyton is a good Bible student who is always happy and helpful. She enjoys anything gross, scary, or weird. "We are proud of you, Peyton. Keep up the good work." (Photo of Peyton at right)



- New Hope hosted the Troup County School System Teacher's Retirement Reception on May 15. The retiring teachers and their families enjoyed a meal and fellowship with each other and many memories. Each retiree was given a special gift and a certificate. Our own New Hope teacher of 30 plus years, Lucy Wilson was one of the retirees. (Lucy Wilson at right)



Below: TCSS Retirement Reception



Teaver Road - The Acts 1:8 missions' team has been collecting monthly items for Operation Christmas Child. Acts 1:8 also provides a monthly meal to Hospice patients and their families. They are also working to fill baby bottles with money to support First Choice Women's Center.

Wehadkee - News correspondent Haywood Cliett has been away for a while due to health problems. He is back now and gives credit to God's grace and good Christian doctors and nurses. "I want to thank all the folks that were praying for me."

- *Nothing But Grace and Heaven Abounds* held their annual Children's Miracle Network singing on April 7. A great time was had worshipping the Lord with music.
- A birthday celebration, with cake and ice cream, was held Wednesday evening for Pastor Nick Pilgrim. Also, a big ole shout goes out to Susan Gebhardt, Pastor Nick's sister. "Happy Birthday!"

- Wehadkee Baptist, Stateline Christian, and Harmony Methodist held a joint sunrise service at Stateline. All in attendance were blessed by Danny Geter. Breakfast was served afterwards.
- On Sunday, April 29, Communion was observed followed by a fellowship lunch after morning worship.

- Congratulations to all graduates: kindergarten through college.
- May birthdays were Jeremy Hewett, Arlen Welborn, Chris Studdard, Wanda Brook, and Emma Cliett. Anniversaries for the month of May were Jeremy & Katie Hewett and Randy & Sharon Mickle.

Ministry Spotlight: Beth Dow

Meet Beth Dow:

Dementia and Alzheimer's Educator, CAED,
Geriatric Case Manager,
Certified Senior Advisor, BSW



I met Beth through an “accidental” (providential) circumstance that God so often arranges. Beth sent me a text introducing herself to me and asking me to reconsider my decision not to serve on the board of directors for a local organization. I replied that I had never been asked! However, I was open to hear about what she wanted me to do. We arranged a time for her to come to my office. It was during that meeting that I discovered the real reason God caused our paths to cross. Let me tell you about Beth.

Beth, who has been married to her childhood sweetheart for 39 years, has 2 boys, 2 daughters-in-law, and 5 grandchildren, is also a graduate of LaGrange College with a BA in Psychology and Social Work. She is a Certified Alzheimer's Educator, a Certified Senior Advisor and a Geriatric Case Manager.

Beth began “Home Helpers of GA & AL” in 2007. In January of 2018, she launched, “Solutions by Beth.” The goal of “Solutions by Beth” is to provide guidance and education to both the family and the professional caregiver. Beth gives community presentations and workshops for seniors, the children of aging parents, and family and professional caregivers. She has provided CEU (continuing education) programs for many hospitals, senior communities, rehab, nursing and hospice facilities, as well as other professional organizations. She has spoken at National and State conferences. Beth is a certificated instructor for The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving. She is a past county chair for the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Coweta and Troup Counties. She is a past board chair for Newnan Coweta Habitat for Humanity, past President of Historic Newnan Kiwanis, and is presently on the board for the Home Care Association of America Georgia Chapter and Dunson Redevelopment Corporation which includes Dunson Apartments, a Senior Living Community and a property of DASH, (Dependable, Affordable, Sustainable Housing).

When Beth told me of her role as an educator for caregivers to families dealing with elderly parents suffering from Alzheimer's, dementia, and other related issues and topics, I then understood why God brought her across my path. As an outgrowth from our first meeting, we have scheduled the following trainings:

- **Thursday, August 23rd, 8:30am - 10:30am Troup Baptist Association will host training for pastors and lay ministers on the subject: “Understanding Dementia and the Families Living with Dementia.” This is a 2-hour, breakfast and learn event for pastors and lay ministers. We will discuss the different types of dementia, and how you can best minister to the families who are living with the disease.**
- **Tuesday, August 28th, 8:30am to 1:30pm, Troup Baptist Association will host training on the subject: “Dealing with Dementia: A Caregiver's Guide.” This is the most comprehensive training to date on dementia, how to live with dementia, how to help a person with dementia, and how to help the caregiver of someone with dementia. This training is for caregivers and anyone interested in learning more about dementia.**

Finally, statistically, if you are a woman 55 years of age or older, you have a 1 in 6 chance of having dementia. If you are a man, you have a 1 in 10 chance. If that doesn't scare you enough, this will: those statistics are highly under estimated. The cases of dementia, including Alzheimer's and Lewy Body Disease, are growing at staggering rates. So, what does this mean for you? It means that chances are you, a family member, or close friend, is, or will soon be, living with this disease.

So, you will want to attend these trainings/workshops. More information will be forthcoming!

Brother Aaron

Announcements

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - "As summer begins, we wish everyone a safe and happy time." • The HUB mission trip will be June 3-9 and they will be going to Clarksville, Ga. Pray for this group as they go out and spread the message of God while helping others. • VBS will begin on June 13 and continue each Wednesday night at 6:30pm through July 25. The theme is "Game On - Gearing up for Life's Big Game" (2 Peter 1:3). "Come and learn about God's ultimate team." • June 14 is Flag Day. "We urge you to put the American flag out to show your patriotism to the United States of America. God bless the USA." • You can follow BTC on social media:
Facebook: Baptist Tabernacle LaGrange
Twitter: Baptist Tab and jimmymcm1
Listen live: Sunday at 10:50am WCJM 100.9FM and Facebook.
Tuesday at 6:00pm Straight from the Bible WOAK 90.9FM

Davidson - Vacation Bible School with Babylon theme is scheduled for June 18-22 from 6:30pm until 8:45pm. Please join us for service and fellowship:
Sunday Breakfast at 9:00am / Sunday School at 9:45am
Sunday Worship Service at 11am / Evening Service at 6pm
Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm (Jeremiah)

Dunson - Plans are in the works for a Youth camping trip at Pastor Kenneth's farm on June 8 & 9. • A group of adults will attend "A Discovery of Christian Apologetics" June 22-23 at Passion City Church in Atlanta. This two-day lab, features Ravi Zacharias and other leading speakers on the topic of Christian Apologetics. The lab will answer some of the toughest questions regarding the Christian faith and will involve teaching, panel Q & A's, and small group discussions.
• VBS "Game On" kicks off Sunday, July 22 from 5-7pm with classes Monday through Wednesday from 6-8pm nightly.

Flat Shoals - June 10 will mark Pastor Wendell Brown's thirty year anniversary with Flat Shoals Baptist Church in West Point, Georgia. "We would like to thank him for his faithfulness and his stand for God throughout these 30 years."

Highland - VBS will be held Monday thru Friday, June 4-8 for children in Kindergarten thru 6th grade. The theme will be Jungle River Adventure. VBS will begin at 8:45am with breakfast and end daily at 11:00am. • Highland will celebrate Father's Day by honoring all Fathers present during Morning Worship Service on June 17.

Hilyer - Vacation Bible School will be held June 18-22 from 6-8pm nightly. The theme is "Game On - Gearing up for life's big game." We invite you to come and bring someone with you. There will be classes for all ages.

Lakeview - Contributions for the Food Closet are needed.

Mountville (MBC) - VBS will be June 11-14! Supper will be served from 5 - 5:45pm each day and class will be from 6:00 - 7:30pm. We invite EVERYONE to come join us for "Game On" as we gear up and get ready for an encounter with Jesus!

New Hope (LaGrange) - Sisters of Hope will meet on June 11.
• Children's Camp Rockridge is June 18-21. See Melissa for applications. • VBS will be held June 24-28 from 6 - 8:30pm.

Roper Heights - VBS Kickoff will be held on Saturday, June 2. VBS will be June 3 - 7 with Family Night on June 8.

Teaver Road - The student ministry is preparing for their trip to Super WOW at Fort Walton Beach, FL in June with 52 signed up to go! • The Children's Ministry is also doing great! As Awana comes to a close, there are exciting summer activities including Vacation Bible School June 3-6 and our community summer camp, Camp Trust, coming July 20-22. See our Facebook page for details. • The Brotherhood will meet on June 9 at 8am for breakfast, fellowship, and devotion.

Did you know...

(reachingnextgen.com)

The more Christian Camps that a teen attends, the more likely they are to come to faith in Christ; and the more likely they are to be in church as adults.



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 April 1 - July 1 for Fall Semester
Late fee of \$24 applies after July 1
Classes begin August 21, 2018

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • New Student: \$126 | • FBI Graduate: \$53 |
| • Returning Student: \$86 | • 2 nd Family Member: \$53 |

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



Georgia Baptist Mission Board

Baptist Mobile Health Ministry

September 12-15

Ministers Wellness Retreat

Georgia Baptist Conference Center, Toccoa Georgia
Open to any Georgia Baptist Convention minister and spouse who do not have preventive health insurance.

Contact Mrs. Laura Gray at 1-800-746-4422 extn 364
or by email at lgray@gabaptist.org

Announcements (continued)

Kickball Tournament

Saturday, August 25

Shuford Softball Complex

Team Sign-In 7:00am / Games Kickoff 8:00am

Tournament Information:

- \$350 per team
- Co-ed: 10-16 per team (3 females on field at all times)
- Ages 14 and up
- Two game guarantee
- All games will be 5 innings or 45 minutes
- Dri-fit shirts for all players
- Gift bags for all players
- Only 24 team spots available!

Register Online at fcwcnottjustforkicks.com

Or contact Michelle Thompson at (706) 333-9249

Sponsored by First Choice Women's Center

Children's Camp Rockridge 2018



June 18-21

Rockridge Baptist
Assembly
Franklin, Georgia

Early Registration thru June 10: \$170
After June 10: \$195

Children ages 8 years thru rising 6th graders

Online Registration is underway now!

For scholarship information, call 706-884-1975

www.troubaptist.org/childrens-camp-rockridge-2018/



Happy Birthday July



- | | |
|----|---|
| 6 | Rev. Michael Hornsby, New Hope LaGrange |
| 13 | Rev. Bobby Bozeman, Baptist Tabernacle |
| 18 | Rev. Jackie Taylor |
| 20 | Rev. Billy McCollough |
| 20 | Rev. Eddie Striblin, Roper Heights |
| 23 | Rev. Max McCord |
| 24 | Rev. Fred Buchanan |
| 24 | Rev. Chris King |
| 27 | Rev. Robert Bagley |
| 27 | Rev. Brad Thompson, Callaway |

On The Lighter Side:

Continued from back page:

"Lord help us to realize when life gets hard, when things come up that we don't like, whenever we don't understand what You are doing, that we need to wait and see what You are making. After You get through mixing and baking, it'll probably be something even better than biscuits. Amen."

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28 (KJV)

GEORGIA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

"GEORGIA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES"

"Truck Loadings"

"A New Day, A New Start, and A New Life through Jesus Christ"

Date: June 18-20, 2018

Bring your Donation To:

Troup Baptist Association Office

Collect: 9:00 – 3:00 pm Monday & Tuesday

9:00 – 12:00 Noon Wednesday

The Troup Baptist Association is collecting: Sugar, Cooking Oil, Salt/Pepper, Bottled Water, Canned fruit, Styrofoam plates/bowls, Plastic forks/spoons. Gift Cards are always appreciated!



2018- Will you partner with us and pray for our residents and direct care staff as they start their journey here with us!

Troup Baptist Association Vacation Bible School Listing is available on our website:

<https://www.troubaptist.org/vacation-bible-schools-2018/>

JUNE CALENDAR

- 4 Pastors' Rib Day Troup Baptist Assoc. Wendell Brown
- 11 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Bernie Pasley
- 17 Happy Father's Day
- 18 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Tom Kennedy
- 18-21 Children's Camp Rockridge, Franklin, GA
- 18-20 Children's Home Truck loading Event
- 25 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Dennis Farr
- 25 Bi-Vocational Pastor's Rib Dinner Troup Baptist Assoc. 6 pm

Faith Bible Institute meets at association office on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm



**Happy Birthday
June**



- 3 Rev. Ronnie Puckett
- 8 Rev. Wendell Brown, Flat Shoals
- 13 Dr. Paul Baxter
- 14 Rev. Robert Burnett
- 15 Rev. Ellis Freeman
- 22 Rev. Bobby Patton
- 29 Rev. Tommy Jeter, At The Cross



Happy Father's Day!



On The Lighter Side:

One Sunday morning at a small southern church, the new pastor called on one of his older deacons to lead in the opening prayer. The deacon stood up, bowed his head and said, "Lord, I hate buttermilk." The pastor opened one eye and wondered where this was going. The deacon continued, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was totally perplexed. The deacon continued, "Lord, I ain't too crazy about plain flour. But after you mix 'em all together and bake 'em in a hot oven, I just love biscuits." (continued on previous page)

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