

## Troup Baptist Association

### No One is More You-er Than You

Theodor Geisel (Dr. Seuss) is credited with saying, “Why fit in when you were born to stand out?” However, while it is a Seussian sentiment, apparently he never uttered it using these words. But he did say, “Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you! Shout loud, I am lucky to be what I am! Thank goodness I’m not a clam or a ham or a dusty old jar of sour gooseberry jam! I am what I am! That’s a great thing to be!”

In Jeremiah 1:5(KJV) God said to the prophet, *“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.”* In this verse the phrase, *“I knew thee,”* does not carry the connotation of shaking somebody’s hand and saying, “Howdy-do” rather, it carries the connotation of a deeply personal relationship. In essence, God is saying

that before we were ever conceived He already knew everything there was to know about us. He knew what we would look like and act like, what we would like and dislike, and our personality, the color of our hair, and our strengths and weaknesses. Yes, He knew where we would excel and where we would fail. But the truth is that before we were ever conceived, the master plan for our lives already existed. This is why the Psalmist David could declare in Psalms 139:14(KJV), *“I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.”*

I heard somebody say once that every new born baby is a reassurance that God has not yet wearied with mankind. And the mindboggling truth is that each child comes into the world with a unique design and purpose. Think about this – of all the children born in the world today (or forever) no two have the same

fingerprints, voiceprints, or DNA patterns. Each is a special, one-off, custom made model designed specifically by the Master Designer. Therefore, I must conclude that every child ever born (including me) is God’s idea. And if we are God’s idea – then we are a GOOD idea! As I was typing the preceding sentence my mind raced back to a poster that was on the wall in a Sunday School class at Stovall Baptist Church in the early 1980’s. The poster contained the face of a child. The caption underneath read, “I know I’m somebody, ‘cause God doesn’t make junk!”

Somebody reading this column today may be facing a watershed moment in your life. You’re seeking purpose, meaning, direction, and maybe even your identity. You’re struggling with what to do. To this point, life has chewed you up and spit you out. Perhaps you need to be reminded that God uniquely created you for a purpose. You’re His idea. And you’re a good idea! So, as you walk with Jesus,

listen again to the two statements I used to start this column: “Why fit in when you were born to stand out?” “Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you! Shout loud, I am lucky to be what I am! Thank goodness I’m not a clam or a ham or a dusty old jar of sour gooseberry jam! I am what I am! That’s a great thing to be!”

I close the column today with another quote by Dr. Seuss, “It has often been said there’s so much to be read, you never can cram all those words in your head. So the writer who breeds more words than he needs is making a chore for the reader who reads. That’s why my belief is the briefer the brief is, the greater the sigh of the reader’s relief is.”

I’m through!

*Brother Aaron*

# News

**Association - The Miracle of the Water:** Each Year the Georgia Baptist Children's Home sends a list of suggested items they need for us to collect for their Meansville & Warm Springs campuses. Along with other items, this year they requested bottled water. As we sent the request out to our churches, we thought that because water, in case form, is so heavy, that we wouldn't collect much of it. However, as the donations started coming in, we started noticing an inordinate amount of water. We had somewhere between 60-70 cases. In addition to that, two different organizations donated two full pallet loads from Feeding the Valley Food Bank. All total, we sent 5,184 bottles of water. Weight wise, that's 3 tons of water! Now, what's the significance of this? When the gentleman from the Children's Home saw all the water, he said, "You're not gonna believe this, but we had run completely out of water at both campuses!" I said, well you ain't out anymore! It's almost as if God knew y'all needed water." He responded, "You reckon?" I said, "Yep, I think so!" Ain't God good? In addition to water, the people and churches of Troup Baptist Association donated an abundance of supplies and gift cards totaling \$1,724.00! Thank you Troup Baptist Association Churches!!! I'm proud of you!!! *Brother Aaron*



Georgia Baptist Children's Home  
Truck-loading Event

**Association - Associational Missionary, Aaron McCollough** enjoyed a lunch meeting with Greg & Shelly Bruckert (below). Greg is an International Mission Board missionary to Indonesia.



**Camp Rockridge 2018**  
Rev. Tifton Dobbs (D & E Charters) generously provided 3 large buses and drivers to transport 157 campers and their gear to Camp Rockridge! THANKS!

## 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.

**Update on Roof Repair Project:** Because of your generous financial response, we now have a new roof on two of the flat roof portions of the building. We received donations from 28 churches, 12 individuals, and one estate. 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. We are currently receiving bids for this phase. *~ Brother Aaron*



Troup Baptist Association  
has a new roof!



Above: Rev. Jerome Shipman  
and crew serving the Pastors

**Association - The annual Pastors' Rib Day** was held on June 4 at the association office. On the evening of June 25, the bi-vocational pastors and wives gathered for their rib feast. Rev. Jerome Shipman and his crew from New Macedonia Baptist Church prepared the ribs and all the trimmings for both meals. "Thank you Brother Jerome & Crew!"

Bi-vocational  
Pastors' Rib Day



Pastors' Rib Day



# News (continued)

**Baptist Tabernacle (BTC)** - was blessed with two new members this month! "We give God all the thanks."

- The Food Closet distributed 324 boxes and 801 meals in June. The Clothes Closet served 217 individuals.
- VBS began on June 13 and will run until July 25, every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30pm.
- The HUB mission trip was very successful this year. They worked with two amazing groups of homeowners. The youth were busy building decks, steps and painting. They also cleaned yards and planted gardens. They had devotions every day learning and sharing the Word of God. There were 12 rededications! "We are so thankful for our youth and their leaders."

**Davidson** - On June 10, Davidson members visited Creekside for their revival. Davidson pastor Howard Longshore delivered the message. Debbie Longshore, Ruth Roberts, and Larry Strong sang songs of praise. God's Holy Spirit was moving and the altar was full of people praying and worshipping God! "God is good all the time!" • Randall Hinson and Erin Lumpkin were joined together in marriage on June 17 by newly ordained minister James Clark. "Congratulations and God's blessing to the new couple!" • The entire week of Vacation Bible School was a tremendous success. "We praise God for all of the workers who helped to make it such a wonderful VBS." "Pray with us that the Biblical seeds that were planted will be watered along the way and remembered by them as they grow."



New Deacons at Davidson, Jimmy Fuller (L) and Bobby Kent (R) were presented Certificates of Ordination by Pastor Howard Longshore, center.



Above: Davidson VBS Workers serving the children  
Left: Rev. Longshore preaching a Revival message at Creekside

**The greatest challenge facing our churches is adapting to and connecting with the next generation.**

(reachingnextgen.com)

**Dunson** - On June 11, the youth enjoyed a fun time at the Cole Farm riding horses, playing volleyball, canoeing, and tractor tire rolling. Pastor Kenneth had an opportunity to share the gospel with the youth and they enjoyed grilled hamburgers and hotdogs. • On Thursday, the seniors traveled to Auburn and enjoyed lunch and fellowship at The Mason Jar. The milkshake bar didn't open until 4pm so they'll be headed back at some future date! • Dunson had a special impromptu Men's Choir that performed "Now Let Us Have a Little Talk with Jesus" on Father's Day. "What a blessing they were!" • WMU spearheaded the food and gift card drive for the Georgia Baptist Children's Home. • Boys from the Royal Ranger group participated in Backpacking Action Camp learning teamwork and living in the back country. Some of the boys also attended the District Junior Training Camp which focuses on leadership development. One of the boys from Royal Rangers has accepted Christ and was baptized on Sunday!



Dunson Men's Choir



Dunson Royal Rangers Backpacking Action Camp with leader Josh Bagley (right front)



Dunson's Senior Outing to The Mason Jar in Auburn, AL



# News (continued)

**Franklin Road (FRBC)** - has recently added two ministers to their staff. Pictured below with Pastor Andy (center) are Jerry Parkerson (left) and Trace Lasher (right). Jerry will serve as **Community Pastor** and lead our church in the areas of discipleship and community ministries around Troup county. Trace will serve as our **Global Pastor** and lead our church in areas related to worldwide missions as well as our mission to reach the international community in Troup County. "What a blessing they are to ministry of FRBC!"



**Fountain** - Nathan Fain's Eagle Scout Project won the 2018 Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award. Nathan designed and built the "LCS Joyful Noise", a handicapped-accessible musical playground at Lafayette Christian School. Nathan is the son of Deanne and Jay Fain. He plans to attend Georgia Tech after high school.

Nathan Fain, center



**Highland** - had a very good VBS with more than 20 children and helpers gathering each day for fun and Bible Study.

- Highland celebrated Father's Day by honoring all Fathers present during Morning Worship Service. Each received a gift from the WMU. Those receiving special gifts were Poe Illama, youngest father and Louis Brummett, oldest father.
- Several Highland members volunteered to help with Troup County Schools' Summer Feeding Program by handing out lunches to children at The Green Patch in Hogansville.
- Colby Freeman delivered the message during the morning worship service on June 24. Colby was a member of Highland's Youth Dept. for many years and recently graduated from Point University. He will soon be traveling to Arizona for more studies. Colby was presented a Certificate of License "to preach the gospel as he may have opportunity, and to exercise his gifts in the work of the ministry" by Highland Baptist Church. "We are very proud of Colby and wish him well in his continued studies." • On July 1, Highland enjoyed a Family Fun Day that included a fish fry.

**Lakeview** - WMU met at the lake on June 12 for a program and picnic planned by hostesses Ginny Helton and Nancy Davis.

- Brotherhood met on June 23 with guest speaker Daryl Yarbrough and then held a planning session about church security.
- The church purchased a gift card to support the Georgia Baptist Children's Homes.

**Mountville (MBC)** - VBS was a huge success this year with an average of 85 each night! Lots of fun was had by all while learning about Jesus! The kids also collected items to donate to the Children's Home Truck-loading event. • MBC helped serve meals to children of Hogansville the week of June 11-15. "What a blessing to be a part of such a great outreach program sponsored by our local school system." Also several members are participating in the Backyard Bible Club in Hogansville on Thursdays during June and July. • The MBC Mission Team has been helping with some mission work and renovations at Camp Viola. • Preacher Dwayne would like to thank everyone for the prayers, thoughts, calls, and texts during his stay in the hospital after his heart attack. He is recovering well and is excited to see what God has in store for MBC! Please keep he and the church in your prayers as they continue to move forward! • MBC wishes everyone a safe and restful Summer.



**MOUNTVILLE VBS  
&  
BACKYARD  
BIBLE CLUB** →



MOUNTVILLE VBS

## Attention Pastors!

The Monday morning Pastors' Prayer Fellowship is now meeting at the Troup Baptist Association office each Monday at 11 am. All pastors are welcome.



# News (continued)

**New Hope (LaGrange)** - had seven children who attended Camp Rockridge in June. Two of these kids invited Jesus into their hearts! "We are so excited for them and their families."

- VBS Game On was held June 24-28 with a large group of boys and girls in attendance. On the first night the children were amazed at the decorations. They soon began learning the Scripture (II Peter 1:3), and singing the "peppy" songs to help them learn about the love of Jesus in a fun and understandable way. "Thank you to all the workers who had a part in this ministry."
- Jack Morman was the guest speaker on Sunday, June 10. His message from Hebrews 10:24-25 "You Are Not Meant to Be Alone" was timely and helpful. "Thank you, Jack."
- New Hope collected items for the Georgia Baptist Children's Home Truck-loading event.
- Independence Day was celebrated on Sunday, July 1 with guest speaker Brigadier General Peter Madsen, USA, Retired.
- Chase Golden will be making his move from Assistant Youth Director at Lafayette Heights Baptist Church in Lafayette, Alabama to Youth Pastor at New Hope Baptist Church in Lagrange, Georgia on the first Sunday in July. Chase currently has a Bachelors degree in theology of Scripture from Temple Baptist Bible College in Roanoke, Alabama and is currently working on his masters. Chase prays that God can use him to further the kingdom and praise God in his new church home.
- Outgoing youth leaders, Randy and Christie Holland, have served faithfully and New Hope wishes God's blessings for their future.
- Braden Webb is the Axis Youth of the month. His mother is Laurie Webb. Braden will be in the 8th grade this fall at Gardner Newman Middle School. He has a loving and happy personality. "Congratulations, Braden! Your church family will be praying for you."

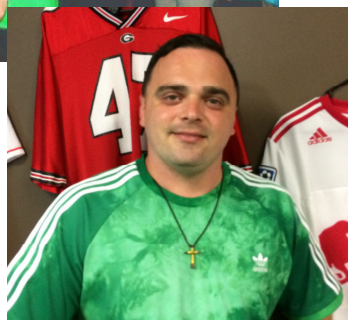


Braden Webb

NEW HOPE VBS



VBS PEP RALLY



Top: New Hope LaGrange VBS

Middle: VBS Worker Pep-Rally

Right: New Hope's Youth Pastor, Chase Golden

**Roper Heights** - had a great VBS with director, Angela Arnold. There were several children saved during VBS and five were baptized: Jaden Milner, Nathan Duncan, Matthew Duncan, Lucian Nixon and Charles Higgins.

- Roper Heights welcomed three new members on June 24: William Phillips, Tammy Higgins, and Charles Higgins. "We are very blessed and give God the Glory."
- Rev. David Burkett and family, missionaries to Mexico, blessed the congregation with songs and a message during a recent Sunday evening service.



Roper Heights' Pastor Eddie Striblin baptized five children following a very successful Vacation Bible School.

**Wehadkee** - "Greetings brothers and sisters from Wehadkee Baptist Church." Mother's Day was celebrated in May. The church recognized all mothers with a gift bag containing an umbrella and a daily devotional. The oldest mother and youngest mother were also recognized.

- Bible Study on Wednesday nights is becoming very real with Mr. Jeremy Hewett leading the class through Revelation. If you are looking for a Wednesday night fellowship, we begin at 6:30pm.

- During the month of June, money was donated for the Georgia Baptist Children's Home Truck-loading event and Father's Day was observed. The children's Sunday School class made special gifts for their fathers and gave out other gifts to all fathers present.
- Wehadkee had a "cutting" on Wednesday night June 20. Mrs. Janet Pilgrim "cut" up a watermelon and a cantaloupe with ease! All present had a great Bible study and got full on God's mighty Word and on watermelon and cantaloupe.
- May and June Birthday wishes go out to Jeremy Hewett, Arlin Welborn, Chris Studdard, Wanda Brooks, Miss Emma Cliett, Mrs. June Ogle and Celeste Cliett. May and June Anniversary wishes go out to Randy & Sharon Mickle and Nick & Janet Pilgrim. "May God Bless!"

## Lafayette Christian School

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# Announcements

**Baptist Tabernacle (BTC)** - The BTC Blood Drive will be July 30 from 2 until 7pm in the JC McMillian Life Center. If you would like to donate, you may call the church office at 706-882-0087 or visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

• A Conquering Chemical Dependency program is being offered at BTC. This program is a Christ-Centered 12-Step Program. It meets every Tuesday at 6:00pm at the Baptist Tabernacle Church - JC McMillian, Sr. Family Life Center in room #14. This program is open to the public. • BTC wishes everyone a happy and safe July 4th. "May God bless you and our country."

**Davidson** - Please join us for service and fellowship: Sunday Breakfast at 9am / Sunday School at 9:45 / Worship Service at 11am / Evening Service at 6pm / Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm. The study is about hell.

**Dunson** - is hosting a Youth Fellowship meeting in conjunction with Gathering of the Saints Outreach on June 30 at 6pm. The speaker is Rev. Terry Gunn, Sr. Dinner will be served afterwards. • Mary James will be performing at the July 1 Sunday morning 11am service at Dunson. Mary is a 4-time winner of the Inspirational Christian Female Vocalist of the Year award and has had several #1 hits. "We are so blessed to have her perform at Dunson and hope you will come and receive a blessing also."

**Highland** - will have a 5th Sunday song service at 11am on July 29.

**Lakeview** - Hostess Carolyn Jones is planning a July WMU meeting; final arrangements will be announced. • The men's Sunday School class is planning a church-wide visit to the KIA Plant. Let Steve Holloway know by July 1 if you plan to attend. Golf carts will be used for the tour and little walking will be required. • A "Meet and Eat" will be held at 6 pm on July 22 with soup, salad, and singing.

**New Hope (LaGrange)** - On July 11, the children will have a Wet-N-Wild Beach Party. On Wednesday evening, July 18 the children will celebrate Christmas in July • The Family Night Cook-Out will be Wednesday, July 25 at 6pm. Hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings will be served.

**Roper Heights** - is enjoying a great attendance on Wednesday nights for Bible Study. They welcome all to come and meet with them at 6pm each Wednesday. "God's blessings to all"

**Teaver Road** - Camp Trust, a community summer camp, is coming July 20-22. See our Facebook page for details.

Did you know... (reachingnextgen.com)

Most people come to faith in Christ  
before the age of 19.

## Dealing with Dementia: A Caregiver's Guide

One in six women and one in ten men, over age 55, will have Dementia. With those statistics, chances are you have a family member or close friend who is living with or will be learning how, to live with the disease.



The Dealing with Dementia program is one of the most comprehensive programs on understanding Dementia and how to best help the person, family member and even the professional understand the disease. Each attendee will go home with new knowledge and a wonderful 350-page book of real life, hands on, easy to access information.

### Please make plans to attend one of our events.

Breakfast & Learn (for Pastors & Lay Ministers)

- Thursday, August 23 8:30 - 10:30 am

Dealing with Dementia

- Tuesday, August 28 8:45 - 1:30 pm  
(includes lunch\*)

Dealing with Dementia

- Thursday, August 30 8:45 - 1:30 pm  
(includes lunch\*)

All events held at Troup Baptist Association  
1301 Washington St., LaGrange, Ga.

Each program will be presented by Beth Dow,  
Dementia and Alzheimer's Educator, CAEd

RSVPs are required for Aug. 28 & 30 so that we  
may have an adequate number of books & lunches.

Please email [angela@troubaptist.com](mailto:angela@troubaptist.com) or  
call (706) 884-1975

There is no cost to you to attend these events!

\* Tuesday lunch provided by Vernon Woods Retirement Community.

\*Thursday lunch provided by Benton House of Newnan.



# 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](http://fcwcnottjustforkicks.com)

Or contact Michelle Thompson at (706) 333-9249

Sponsored by First Choice Women's Center



## Happy Birthday August



- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 5  | Rev. Lamar Womack, Gray Hill           |
| 6  | Rev. Bobby Robinson                    |
| 10 | Rev. Bernie Pasley, East Vernon        |
| 10 | Rev. Mike Watson                       |
| 17 | Rev. Frank Abrahamsen, Praise & Prayer |
| 22 | Rev. Jerome Shipman, New Macedonia     |
| 23 | Rev. Tifton Dobbs, Anointed By Faith   |
| 29 | Rev. Billy Allen                       |

## The Academy of Arts

Presents

### "But We See Jesus"

Thursday, July 12 @ 7 pm

@ Oakside Baptist Church.

The Academy of Arts from Greenville, SC features young people with hearts to bring the Bible to life through the ministry of Christian drama, using professional lighting, sound & costumes.

Their presentations are excellent!

Tim Tidwell

Oakside Baptist Church



## 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](mailto:lgray@gabaptist.org)

## Association - Church Prayer List

### 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

### For August 2018, please pray for following churches:

- Week of August 5, 2018 - Stovall Baptist Church
- Week of August 12, 2018 - Teaver Road Baptist Church
- Week of August 19, 2018 - The Church on the Rock
- Week of August 26, 2018 - Troup Baptist Association

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



## 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.

Late Registration is open July 2 through August 21.

Late fee of \$24 applies after July 1

Classes begin August 21, 2018

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

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)

Troup Baptist Association Vacation Bible School Listing is available on our website:  
<https://www.troubaptist.org/vacation-bible-schools-2018/>

## JULY CALENDAR

- 2 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Tim Tidwell
- 4 Troup Baptist Assoc. & GBMB closed for Independence Day
- 9 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Kenneth Whitlock
- 10 Faith Bible Institute: Creationism Elective Final @ 6:30 pm
- 16 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Paul Baxter
- 23 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Frank Abrahamsen
- 26 Executive Committee Meeting, Troup Baptist Assoc. @ 7 pm
- 30 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Jim Cheyne

TBA refers to Troup Baptist Association office

# Happy Independence Day!

## 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:*

With all the new technology regarding fertility recently, a 65-year-old friend of mine was able to give birth. When she was discharged from the hospital and went home, I went to visit. "May I see the new baby?" I asked. "Not yet," She said. "I'll make coffee and we can talk for a while first." Thirty minutes had passed, and I asked, "May I see the new baby now?" "No, not yet," she said. After another few minutes had elapsed, I asked again, "May I see the baby now?" "No, not yet," replied my friend. Growing very impatient, I asked, **"Well, when can I see the baby?"** "WHEN HE CRIES!" she told me. "WHEN HE CRIES?" I demanded. "Why do I have to wait until he CRIES?" **"BECAUSE I FORGOT WHERE I PUT HIM, O.K.?!!"**

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