

## Troup Baptist Association

### There is No Secret Sauce

Once a year, my good friend, the late Rev. Jerome Shipman, used to cook, prepare, and serve a rib feast for the pastors and wives of the Troup Baptist Association. Aside from those ribs being “fall off the bone tender,” his secret for the flavoring was in his “secret” sauce. Whenever anybody would ask him for the recipe he would reply, “Oh noooooo! Oh noooooo! It’s a secret!” However, before he died, I think he finally passed the secret on to Rev. Derek Williams. (We’ll have to see come next rib feast time, Bro. Derek!)

As I was contemplating the subject for this Pastoral Nugget, I couldn’t get the thought of, “the secret sauce” out of my head. In our world today there are several highly guarded “secret sauces.” The formula for Coca-Cola immediately comes to mind, along with Kentucky Fried Chicken’s secret blend of eleven herbs and spices.

However, I think Kentucky Fried Chicken’s recipe is now on line. Go figure! I guess the secret isn’t secret anymore!

Another thing that I thought about was a show that I used to watch around forty years ago. It was called Sportsman’s Lodge and the host was Ridley Bell. It was broadcast every Saturday afternoon on WRBL TV, Channel 3, out of Columbus, Georgia. It was a local in-house production. Each show contained a segment where local fishermen would bring in their catch and they would have a competition for the biggest fish. As the host was weighing the fish he would ask, “Where’d you catch it?” And the response was always the same, “In a private pond.” In other words, those fishermen were saying, “It’s a secret and there ain’t no way on God’s green earth that I’m going to announce the location of my honey hole to you and your viewing audience!”

As I have matured physically and Spiritually, I have slowly come to the realization that, in life, there is no secret sauce or recipe that will make anybody happy or successful. The “secret” is revealed in Micah 6:8(KJV), “*He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?*” This, coupled with accepting Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior, is the key to being happy and successful. I have also discovered that most of us are about as happy and successful as we make up our minds to be. And happiness and success in this life is not based upon accumulating money and things, or achieving some status level. It is based upon knowing Jesus and walking-out Micah 6:8.

It amazes me how pastors, church leaders, and church members tend to flock to the latest and greatest “secret sauce” of church growth.

In my lifetime I have witnessed programs like: Let’s Go Soul Winning, Master Life, GROW Evangelism Strategy, and the FAITH Evangelistic Strategy. I have witnessed as churches have morphed from Sunday School to Small Groups, a pianist and song leader leading congregational worship to praise teams and words on the wall. I have witnessed preachers going from suits to golf shirts and khaki pants. And none of these things are inherently good or bad within themselves. They’re just things. However, they do bring to mind the thought: There is no secret sauce! Let that sink in: There is no secret sauce.

*“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”*

*Brother Aaron*

# News

**Association** - The annual Senior Adult Rally was held on September 6 and hosted by Grace Baptist Church. The event began with a time of singing favorite hymns led by Steve Vickery. The capacity crowd of seniors was welcomed by Pastor Donnie Benefield of Grace Baptist Church. After a blessing for the meal, prepared by the Senior Group of Grace, everyone enjoyed their choice of pork loin or baked chicken, salad, vegetables and dessert. Many door prizes donated by local merchants were given away. The Millers - Randy and Sherri blessed the audience with Southern Gospel music and mixed in a few southern jokes for just the right blend of inspiration and laughter. Thank you Grace Baptist Church for hosting this event in your beautifully decorated facility and to Striffler-Hamby Mortuary who sponsors this event each year!



SENIOR ADULT  
RALLY  
GRACE BAPTIST



Above Left: Steve Vickery leading singing.

Above Right: Pastor Donnie Benefield of Grace Baptist Church



Left: Randy and Sherri Miller playing harmonica and singing



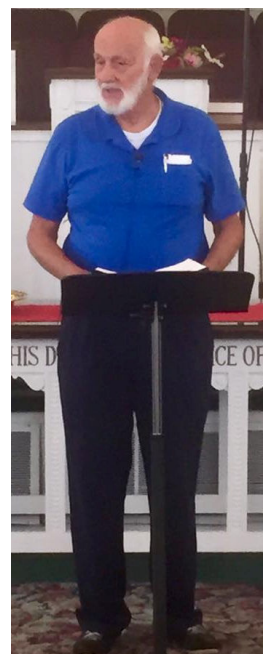
At Left L-R: Alex Pasley, Judy King, Bonnie Reed and Joyce Gandee are inserting the pages of the Messenger newsletter. Each month our volunteers gather to prepare over 2,000 newsletters for mailing. Alex Pasley and Bonnie Reed are two of our most recent volunteers. Long time volunteers are Judy & Richard King, Joyce & Herb Gandee, Dottie Henson, Sylvia Smith, Ruby Crayden, Clyde Moore, Mona Gamble, Sue Crenshaw, Barbara Demry, Lucinda Deitman and her granddaughter Lara-Anne, our youngest "volunteer". Thank you to all of our volunteers!

## 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.

Jackson "Jack" Day (at right) presented a Biblical Storytelling Seminar at the Troup Baptist Association on Sept. 6. Jack learned to do Biblical Storytelling when he and his wife Doris lived in Brazil for 33 years while employed with the International Mission Board (IMB). They were pioneers in using chronological Bible storytelling in South America. Jack became the IMB's first Bible Storytelling Coordinator for Eastern South America. The Bible storytelling books and curriculums they developed in Portuguese continue to be used throughout Brazil. Jack and Doris returned to the USA to expand their storytelling activities. They do storytelling, lead training seminars and do consulting across North America and internationally.



## Messenger Newsletter

If you are receiving more than one copy of our newsletter each month, please call or email our office so that we can remove duplicates from our mailing list.

Phone: (706) 884-1975

Email: [angela@troubaptist.com](mailto:angela@troubaptist.com)



# News (continued)

**Baptist Tabernacle (BTC)** - God has blessed the church family again with three new members. "Welcome new members! God is great - all the time!" • The Food Ministry served 538 individuals, giving away 351 boxes of food and 630 meals. The Clothes Closet served 187 individuals. The weather will soon be getting colder. If you have any coats to donate, please bring them to Baptist Tabernacle Church. Many people would not have a winter coat if it were not for people donating to the Coat Closet. • Awana got off to a great start on Sept. 5. They meet each Wednesday evening from 6:30 until 8:00pm. On October 31 there will be no meeting. "Awana" stands for **Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed**. • Trunk or Treat will be held Wednesday, October 31 from 6 to 8pm at the church. Candy will be given to children. There will be cake walks, hot dogs, chips, pickles, popcorn and drinks for sale. Come and enjoy a fun and safe evening for everyone. • Homecoming will be Sunday, October 7 at 10:30am with a covered dish dinner in the JC McMillian Life Center following the morning worship service. Everyone is welcome. • Silent Hope Ministry prepared and served lunch for the residents of Amberwood Apartments. These residents appreciated the food and fellowship. • Heavens Echos 39th Anniversary Singing featuring the Karr Family singers was held on Sept. 21 at 6pm.

**Dunson** - welcomed five new members: Josh and Jamie Pendergrass and family. Josh is also the new Youth Director at Dunson. Everyone is excited to see what the next year holds! The youth are already joining in the choir and have provided special music during the morning services.



THE PENDERGRASS FAMILY

They spent the day at Six Flags on September 29.

• The senior adults enjoyed a trip to Nashville, TN and are already looking forward to the October trips on their new bus.



Above L-R: Stanley Woods, Kay Abrams, Pastor Kenneth Cole and Pat Vessel had a booth to greet and pray for those attending the health fair at the Senior Apartments beside Dunson Baptist Church.

**Grace** - hosted the Senior Adult Rally on September 6 which included a meal and door prizes. About 170 seniors attended. Special entertainment was provided by Randy and Sherri Miller. "Thank you to all that helped make this a success!" • "Thanks to the men who came for Men's Work Day to keep our church beautiful." • LaGrange Fire Dept. #2 picked up baskets of snacks and get well cards made by our Youth and Children's Department for the four injured firefighters.



At Left: Men's workday at Grace Baptist Church

Below: Grace's youth & children presented the LaGrange Fire Dept. with gift baskets for the four injured firefighters.

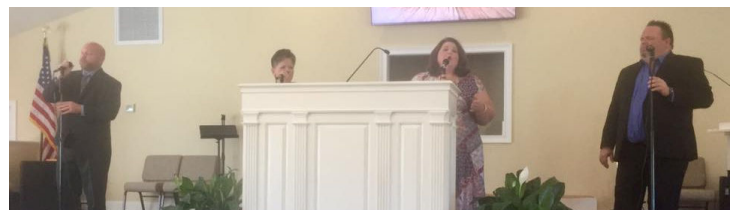


**Hillcrest** - "What an awesome day at Hillcrest! Aaron McCollough and Jimmy McMillian preached two very encouraging messages for Homecoming service on September 23. *Higher Hope* sang the house down!! God is good to us and has really blessed Hillcrest Baptist Church." ~ Pastor Jim Butler



Above L-R: Rev. Jimmy McMillian (Baptist Tabernacle) and Rev. Jim Butler (Hillcrest) at Hillcrest's Homecoming Service.

Below: *Higher Hope* sang at Hillcrest's Homecoming Service





## News (continued)

**Highland** - welcomed a new member! Randy Bell made a public profession of faith in August and was Baptized on Sunday, September 16. "We love Randy and Mary and are happy to have them worshipping with us at Highland."

- A great Homecoming was held on September 9. Rev. Zack Masdon delivered a great message and beautiful special music was provided by *The Revelations* from Warm Springs. Once again, the ladies at Highland provided a delicious lunch following the service. "It was a wonderful day!"
- Highland had their 5th Sunday Hymn Sing Service on September 30. The choir provided special music, along with several duets and groups. The congregation suggested their favorite hymns as well. "This is always a fun service."



Above: *The Revelations* from Warm Springs, GA



Above L-R: Randy Bell with Pastor Terry Rainwater, Rev. Zack Masdon delivered the Homecoming Message.

**Mountville (MBC)** - welcomed four new members in September! • A baby dedication was held for Wyatt Green on Sunday, September 23. Proud parents are Mitch and Whitney Green and proud sister, Peyton. (see photo) • On Sunday evening September 30, MBC enjoyed a night of worship with *New Desire* singing and Brother Dan Robinson bringing the message.



At Right L-R: Wyatt, Whitney, Mitch and big sister Peyton of Mountville Baptist Church

**Lakeview** - Several members attended the Senior Adult Rally sponsored by Troup Baptist Association and held at Grace Baptist Church on September 6. • WMU met on September 10 with hostess Charlotte Cobb giving her testimony and providing a delicious main dish and dessert to be enjoyed by all. • Men enjoyed fellowship and a meal at a meeting on September 15. • Several members continue to provide devotions and music for residents of Poplar Creek Assisted Living.

**New Hope (LaGrange)** - is pleased to welcome two new members in September, Traci Spears and her daughter, Rebecca Burnette. • Sisters of Hope met on September 10 and were inspired by the personal testimony of Lori McClung. • Several members attended the Senior Adult Rally on September 6 at Grace Baptist Church. It was a great time of fellowship and inspirational music. • The church family welcomes a new baby girl, Emberleigh Mae Wilson born on September 14. Congratulations to parents Josh and Courtney Wilson, grandparents, Lamar and Sheila Wilson, and great-grandparents, Bo and Lucy Wilson. • The collection for shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child has begun. Please bring your donations to the box in the church foyer. Items must be received by Sunday, November 11. • Homecoming and Pastor Appreciation Day was held Sunday, September 30. The guest speaker was Harris Malcom from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board. There was special music and several spoke to share special stories about Pastor Mike Hornsby. They honored "Preacher Mike" and Susan, his faithful wife, with monetary gifts and cards from a money tree. Everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner in the Fellowship Hall. "We love you Preacher Mike and thank you for your faithfulness to God and your unconditional love for all your church family. May God continue to bless you in your ministry."

**Roper Heights** - had three additions to the church! They are blessed to have Barbara Farmer, Corbin Johnstone, and Emily Akins to join their church family.

- On September 16, Bo Huerta was ordained as a Minister of the Gospel.

**Wehadkee** - The 169th Homecoming was held on August 5 with Rev. S.T. Janney as the guest speaker. On Monday night, Rev. Woody Woodard brought a great message followed by Rev. Olin White on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Amberly Woellert gave her life to God during the revival! On Sept. 2, Ms. Amberly was baptized at Dewberry Access. All who witnessed this received a blessing. • The ladies held a bridal shower at Milano's for Celeste Cliett. • The children's Sunday school class made gifts for grandparents on September 9. • On September 16, Sonda Freeman came forward to give her life to God and to join the church. She was baptized on Sept. 23 at Dewberry Access.



L-R: Bo Huerta with Pastor Eddie Striblin

# Announcements

**Baptist Tabernacle (BTC)** - Every Tuesday night at 6pm a Conquering Chemical Dependency meeting is held. This is a Christ-Centered 12-Step Program which is Biblically based, clinically tested, proven program that provides significant help that an addicted person needs to make a complete recovery. Remember, Mark 10:27 (KJV) “...for with God all things are possible.” • “Please pray for the storm victims and for the ones who are helping them recover.”

**Bethel** - October 20 will be the 2nd Annual Singing on the Square in downtown West Point featuring local singing groups, an award winning drama team, along with craft & food vendors.

**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 next study will be on Heaven.

**Dunson** - Homecoming is October 7 beginning at 10:30am with dinner following in the fellowship hall. • Upcoming senior trips in October: Apple Trip to Ellijay on Oct 11; Columbus to hear the Gaither Band on Oct 6; and Chonda Pearce, Christian Comedian, in Columbus on Oct 21. If you are interested in joining us, please call the church for information on upcoming trips and availability. • The Youth meet for Youth Challenge each Sunday afternoon at 4:30 and for classes on Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

**Grace** - The Senior's Group meets the first Tuesday of each month.

- Giving Grace Meals are held every third Saturday.
- Men of Grace and Ladies of Grace meet every third Monday night at 6:30 with a meal followed by a meeting at 7:00. Each group's main focus is community missions.



**Highland** - The annual Trunk 'N Treats will be held October 31 in the church parking lot. Large groups of children come by and enjoy treats given from trunks of decorated cars lining the parking lot. Bible tracts are also given to all who come by, making this a great time to reach children in our neighborhood with the good news of Jesus.

**Lakeview** - Homecoming will be Sunday, October 14 with Rev. Randall Hodge presenting not only the message but also some special music. • WMU will meet on October 22 with hostess Carol Truitt in charge of the menu and the devotion. • Donations of nonperishable foods with future expiration dates continue to be needed for the Food Closet.

**Mountville (MBC)** - A Huge Yard Sale will be held at MBC on Saturday, October 6 from 8am - 12noon. There will be crafts, furniture, household items, clothes, etc.! All proceeds will benefit the building fund. • A Benefit Singing will be held on Saturday, October 13 at 6pm at MBC. Singers will include *The Kingdom Express* and *Nothing but Grace*. The event will be hosted by Chris Studdard. All proceeds will benefit the building fund.

**New Hope (LaGrange)** - Sisters of Hope will meet on Monday, October 8 at 6pm. Please bring a finger food to share. • The Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat will be held Wednesday, October 24 at 6:00pm. See Rita Karr or Melissa Hughes to volunteer. • Operation Christmas Child donations must be in by Sunday, November 11.

**Roper Heights** - will have a Fall Festival on November 4 from 4-6 pm. There will be a cake walk, hot dogs and a Trunk-or-Treat for the children at 6pm. Everyone please bring candy! Please join us for Bible Study on Wednesday nights at 6:00.

**Teaver Road** - Teaver Road Baptist Church's annual Fall Festival will be on October 31. There will be games, food, and trunk-or-treat. All will be free and open to the community! Please check their Facebook page for more details to come.

## SINGING ON THE SQUARE in Downtown West Point, GA

**Saturday, October 20  
11am - 2pm**

Featuring: Local Singing Groups,  
Award Winning Riverview Drama Team,  
Craft & Food Vendors, and Baked Goods

Sponsored by Bethel Baptist Church



# Announcements (continued)



## 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.

**Spring Semester Online Enrollment through Nov. 15**

(late fee of \$24 applies after Nov 15)

**Classes begin January 22, 2019**

- 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)



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Save the Date...



## Pastors' & Wives' Christmas Party

**Tuesday, December 4, 2018**

**6:00 pm**

**Hosted by Baptist Tabernacle Church**

## The Troup Baptist Association Prayer Team

Meets each Wednesday at 11:00 AM

To make a prayer request,  
visit our website: [www.troubaptist.org](http://www.troubaptist.org)  
Click on the "Prayer Request" tab  
or call (706) 884-1975

(all requests are confidential)

## Attention: Pastors!

**Monday, November 5**  
**11 AM - 1 PM**

Sam Warner of the Georgia Baptist Foundation  
will speak on fund management,  
estate planning and wills, etc.

Location: Troup Baptist Association office  
Lunch will be included - Please RSVP  
(706) 884-1975

## Association - Church Prayer List

**For October 2018, please pray for following churches:**

Week of October 7, 2018 - Antioch Baptist Church (Hogansville)  
Week of October 14, 2018 - Antioch Baptist Church (LaGrange)  
Week of October 21, 2018 - At The Cross  
Week of October 28, 2018 - Baptist Tabernacle Church

**For November 2018, please pray for following churches:**

Week of November 4, 2018 - Bethel Baptist Church  
Week of November 11, 2018 - Bethlehem Baptist Church  
Week of November 18, 2018 - Callaway Baptist Church  
Week of November 25, 2018 - Concord Baptist Church

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

# Announcements (continued)

## Attention: Church Clerks

Annual Church Report Forms & Instructions were mailed out in August.  
Please complete your church reports online or on paper by October 8.

If you did not receive your forms or if you have questions, please call Angela at 706-884-1975



## 31st NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN

October 7, 2018 2:00 - 3:00 PM

St. Peter's Catholic Church Parking Lot

We will silently stand along LaFayette Pkwy & Morgan St. with our signs for one hour.

For Christians who want to see an end to the horror of killing babies!

Please join us for this prayerful event.  
Let us invest one hour to save a lifetime.

Contact Theresa Shane for questions at 309-635-2712  
or by email: [tscsjoblate@gmail.com](mailto:tscsjoblate@gmail.com)

## Annual Meeting Voting Members

Each church in the association is entitled to voting members at the annual meeting per the following formula:

1. The pastor is automatically a messenger.
2. Four duly elected messengers for total church membership up to 100 people.
3. One additional messenger for every 50 members over the first 100.
4. No church can have more than 10 messengers.

Examples:

Church Membership	# Messengers including Pastor
1 - 149	5
150 - 199	6
200 - 249	7
250 - 299	8
300 - 349	9
350 or more	10

## Annual Meeting of the Troup Baptist Association

Monday, October 15, 2018

6:00 - 6:30 pm Special Music: Women's Trio  
(Erica Whitney, Canaan Looney & Holly Martin)

6:30 pm Annual Meeting

Guest Speaker: Rev. Michael Stiggers  
Pastor of Eastside Baptist Church  
LaGrange, Georgia

## Fourth Annual March for Jesus

Saturday, October 13 8:00 AM

Everyone Welcome!  
All churches are invited to participate.

March begins at Sweetland Amphitheatre  
and ends at the Square.

The purpose and objective in marching is to lift up  
the name of Jesus and thank Him for the  
numerous blessings He has bestowed on us!

Seats will be available on the Square for those not able to march.  
For more information call 706-333-7799



Happy Birthday  
November



- 2 Rev. Jerome Hicks
- 6 Ms. Jane Gottshall, Association Clerk
- 15 Bro. Terry Gray, The Church on the Rock
- 16 Rev. Steve Sexton
- 22 Rev. Steve Johnson, Bethel

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 1 Pastor's Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Billy Allen
- 8 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Bob Tidwell
- 15 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Lamar Womack
- 15 Troup Baptist Association Annual Meeting 6:00 pm
- 18 Leadership Group 1 @ 10:30am, Group 2 @ 6:30pm
- 22 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Richard King
- 22 Leadership Group 3 @ 6:30pm at Troup Baptist Assoc.
- 29 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Bobby Bozeman

TBA refers to Troup Baptist Association office  
 Association Prayer Group meets on Wednesdays at 11am @ TBA  
 Faith Bible Institute meets on Tuesdays at 6:30pm @ TBA



## Happy Birthday October



- ..2 Rev. S. T. Janney
- ..8 Rev. Kevin Stringham, Fountain
- ..11 Rev. Larry Prestridge
- ..14 Rev. Anthony Criswell, First Baptist on the Square
- ..17 Dr. Mike Brandenburg
- ..20 Rev. Kenneth Cole, Dunson
- ..26 Rev. Marion Hammond
- ..31 Rev. Clifford Anderson



## Happy Fall Y'all



### *On The Lighter Side:*

A sweet grandmother telephoned St. Joseph's Hospital and she timidly asked, "Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?" The operator responded, "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the patient's name and room number?" The grandmother in her weak tremulous voice said, "Norma Findlay, Room 302." The operator replied, "Let me place you on hold while I check with her nurse." After a few minutes the operator returned to the phone, "Oh, good news. Her nurse has told me that Norma is doing very well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood work just came back as normal. And her physician, Dr. Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged Tuesday." The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful. I was so worried! God bless you for the good news." The operator replied, "You're more than welcome. Is Norma your daughter?" The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in Room 302. No one tells me anything."

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