Troup Baptist Association

The Names and Faces of Yesterday's Prayers

A couple of days ago, a longtime friend posted a family portrait on his Facebook page. It included two new additions to his family. The new additions were two little boys who looked to be around three and four years old. He stated, "It's official now. So, I guess I can go ahead and make it public. My wife and I just finished the adoption process and the two little boys in the front of this picture are now our two sons." And those two boys are just as cute as can be!

As I read his words my mind suddenly flashed back about twenty-five years. He and his wife were members of the church where I was serving as pastor. In fact, I officiated at their wedding. For a couple of we desire. We must years, they had unsuccessfully tried to get aren't necessarily denials! pregnant. One Sunday night, during the altar call portion of the service, they came forward and asked me to kneel with them in the altar and pray with them that God would wanted. What would the bless them with children.

I was honored to do so.

Their family portrait now includes seven adopted children. As I pondered what I was seeing, I posted, "These are the names and faces of vesterday's prayers!" (Reread that last children? sentence!) Their ages range from college students to three years old. Each has a story. And each has a unique set of circumstances that qualified them to become a member of this family.

To be Judgement Day honest with you, when we knelt in the altar, we were praying that God would allow them to conceive and birth a baby naturally. However, the truth is that God doesn't always answer our prayers on our timetable, or in the way realize that God's delays Sometimes He's simply saying, "In My time and in My way!" Just suppose that God would have answered our prayers the way we result have been? Most

likely, they would have had one, maybe two children, and would have lived happily ever after. And that's well and good; there's nothing wrong with that scenario! But what about those seven children in the family portrait? Who would have become the "star in the sky" for these seven

The following Sunday, I was invited to preach Homecoming Services at the church where I was raised. I took my text from Hebrews 11:1, which states, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." The title of my sermon was: How to Have a Faith That Becomes the Evidence of Things Unseen. Quite naturally, I shared with the congregation the story I have just shared with you.

As I waxed eloquent with my sermon, I told the congregation, that in a strange sort of way, I was the embodiment of the text scripture. I am the face and name to my mother and father's prayers - from sixty-four years ago. My life today

is the evidence of things they could not have possibly seen when they prayed. I then stated, that although they may not realize it, they too are the names and faces of the prayers of yesterday's saints - those Founding Fathers who prayed for God to bless the church they had founded and to fill it with people needing to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I closed by asking them, if God tarries His coming for another sixty-four years, would some preacher be able to stand in that pulpit on Homecoming Day 2083 and tell the congregation gathered on that day that they are the names and faces of the prayers we are praying today.

I encourage you to keep praying! Someday, somehow, there will be names and faces associated with your prayers ... just as you are a name and face of yesterday's prayers!

Brother Agron

News

Association - International Mission Board Missionary, Greg Bruckert, spoke at the Pastors Prayer Fellowship on July 8 at the Troup Baptist Association office. The Pastors Prayer Fellowship is held each Monday morning at the association office. Coffee and snacks fellowship starts at 11:00am. Prayer time starts around 11:25am and is usually finished around noon. Those desiring to do so go to lunch afterwards. On August 19, the group will meet at Hillcrest Baptist Church for a tenderloin meal provided by Pastor Jim Butler and Pastor Jim Cheyne. "I hope to see you there!" Brother Aaron



Highland Baptist Ordination Service of Colby Freeman Above L-R: Rev. Aaron McCollough, Deacon Chuck Trim, Rev. Terry Rainwater, Colby Freeman, Deacon Shane Pierce, Deacon Chris Boyd, Deacon Jimmy Carden, Deacon Mike Chapman and Rev. Greg Morris, Pastor of First Baptist of Hogansville

Association - Associational Missionary, Aaron McCollough traveled a lot during the past month, not on vacation, but on mission. The first stop was Highland Baptist Church for the Ordination Service of Colby Freeman on Sunday, June 30. The next stop was Western Heights Baptist Church where he spoke at the Highway Intersection Naming Ceremony honoring Sergeant Corey Spates. Special thanks to Representative Randy Nix, Senator Matt Brass, and all who had a part in making this day a reality. On July 7, Bro Aaron and Mrs. Marianne visited Western Heights for the morning service and Grace Baptist in the evening where they enjoyed The Old Path Quartet. The next weekend, Bro. Aaron was off to Wedowee, Alabama to preach on Sunday, July 14 at Iduma Congregational Methodist Church where Bro. Jonathan Hannah is the pastor. Bro. Aaron attended the Men's Breakfast on July 20 at Hogansville First Baptist Church. On July 21, Bro. Aaron preached the homecoming message at Hilyer Baptist Church. His daughter, Stephanie Walker provided special music for the service. Following the meal, they all enjoyed music by *The Exhorters*. Final stop for July was Hillcrest Baptist Church for their Youth Conference on July 27. Bro. Aaron and his 14 year old grandson, Jacob Walker were the guest speakers. On July 28, he preached the Hillcrest Homecoming message.

In addition to traveling and speaking, Bro. Aaron was busy acquiring funds and school supplies for Berta Weathersbee Elementary School, our partner in education. The supplies were ordered and delivered to the office on July 18. Two of Berta Weathersbee's staff members, James Brown and Timothy Cutright, along with Rev. Don Ellison and Bro. Aaron unloaded the 19 cases of supplies from the truck and carried them inside where they will be sorted and grouped for each classroom before school starts.



Also in July, Bro. Aaron has been recording a video series with Dr. Paul Baxter called, "Bible-based Baptist Beliefs." In this video series, Dr. Baxter will be teaching a scaled-down version of the curriculum he wrote and taught at Brewton-Parker College. You may view videos in this series by going to: www.troupbaptist.org and clicking on the "Instructional Videos" tab. The Bible-based Baptist Beliefs series will be an on-going series with many individual videos.



Berta Weathersbee School Supplies unloaded by L-R, James Brown, Timothy Cutright, Rev. Don Ellison and Bro. Aaron



At Left, L-R are
Sandra Simpson
Corey's Grandmother,
Patrick Crews,
Chairman of the
Troup County
Board of
Commissioners
and Joy Thomas,
Corey's Mom.

Vacation Bible Schoo

News (continued)

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - During July, the Food Ministry served 633 individuals. They gave 282 boxes of food and 452 meals to those in need. The Clothes Closet served 217 individuals. As school is starting back, children will need clothes. If you have any to donate, the Clothes Closet could use them. The Food and Clothes Closets are opened every Thursday from 9am until 11am. • VBS concluded on July 25 with a ceremony. A lot of learning, fun, food and fellowship was had by all who attended. "Thanks to all the volunteers who served." • BTC Blood Drive was held on July 1 and was a huge success. The goal was 34 pints and they received 37. "God is great! Thanks to Faye Hester Rogers and all of the volunteers."

Dunson - had another busy month. Pastor Kenneth Cole used the church bus to take the Boys & Girls Club of Hogansville to the Georgia Aquarium. • The Dunson adults took a trip to eat at Buckner's Family Restaurant in Jackson, Ga. • On the spur of the moment, the pastor convinced the youth director and some of the youth to bake cookies for giving out during visitation. They turned out great! • WMU invited Teressa Barber to speak at a monthly meeting and she had the church building shaking with laughter! • God has brought new members, a new song leader, and a new pianist which allowed Carolyn Woods to move back to the organ. • Dunson will be closing out the month of July with Vacation Bible School. Dunson is staying busy for the Lord!







Dunson Above L-R: Youth baking cookies for visitation, Girls & Boys Club Bus Trip to the Georgia Aquarium, and Dunson Adults bus trip to Bruckner's Family Restaurant

First Hogansville (FBCH) - had double cause to celebrate last month: The Fourth of July and the second anniversary of welcoming Pastor Greg Morris and his family to their congregation and into their hearts. "We are thankful that we have the freedom of open worship, and we are grateful to Pastor Greg for his direction as we do so. The Morris family has been a great blessing over the last two years, and we look forward to that continued leadership in our church and our community. According to Baptist tradition, we celebrated with food at a hamburger cookout and picnic on July 3, followed by games for the young and young-at-heart." • FBCH was an active place during the week of VBS, July 7-12. The VBS theme was "In The Wild, Amazing Encounters with Jesus." There were classes for children and adults. The crowd increased nightly and reached a high attendance of 185 on Thursday evening! Everyone had a fun and amazing time while learning about Jesus and how He wants to be the focus of our lives. On Family Night (Friday), the young people shared what they had learned with family and friends. It was obvious everyone had experienced a wonderful encounter in Christian love. There were several professions of faith and/or rededications during the week! "We feel blessed." The offering totaled \$266 and was donated to God's Bread Basket, the local food pantry, which the children learned about during mission studies. VBS director, Mrs. Melanie Baswell, thanked everyone who participated in making VBS so successful. • On July 21, Dr. K.G. Bailey, Pastor, and the church choir of White Oak Grove Baptist Church of Senoia, led the Sunday Morning service at FBCH. Songs from the choir set the stage for a sweet time of fellowship, and Dr. Bailey delivered a Spirit-filled message that touched a cord in every heart. "We were blessed to have two congregations come together in praise and worship, and the love of God was truly in this place." Pastor Greg Morris spoke for all when he thanked Dr. Bailey and his church members for coming. "We look forward to future opportunities to worship together."



News (continued)

Grace - had a good turnout for *The Old Paths* 'singing July 7. • The Reformer's Unanimous group had a training class during the month of July.

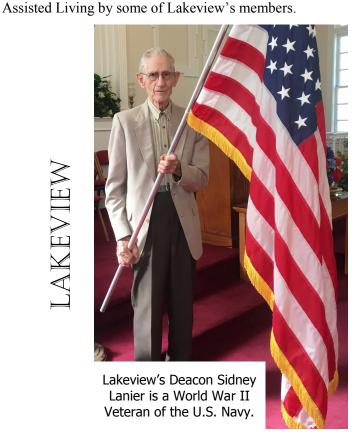
GRACE Above: The Old Paths At left, a Girls Only Slumber Party was held on Saturday night. Below: Reformer's **Unanimous Training** Class

Highland - On June 30, Highland held a Service of Ordination for Rev. Colby Freeman, who recently completed requirements to become a Minister of the Gospel. Several pastors and deacons participated in the service, including Rev. Paul Stitcher, retired pastor and great-grandfather of Colby. Prior to delivering the Prayer of Dedication, Rev. Stitcher told the congregation how much it meant to him that his great-grandson was following in his footsteps and accepting the call to the ministry. Also participating were Rev. Aaron McCollough, Associational Missionary, Troup Baptist Association; Rev. Terry Rainwater, Pastor, Highland Baptist Church; Rev. Greg

Morris, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Hogansville; and Highland Baptist Deacons: Chuck Trim, Shane Pierce, Chris Boyd, Jimmy Carden and Mike Chapman. Rev. Colby and Savanna Freeman are now ministering at a church in Arizona. (See photo on page 2) • Mike Norwood was baptized during morning worship service on July 7. Mike made a public profession of faith on Sunday, June 23. "We are so happy to welcome Mike into our church family!"

Lakeview - Deacon Sidney Lanier, age 93, held the American Flag at the Independence Day service on Sunday, July 3. Mr. Lanier is a World War II veteran and served in the U.S. Navy. He also plays the guitar for Lakeview's Poplar Creek Ministry. • The Lakeview WMU ladies held their monthly meeting, planned by Audrey Holloway, at IHOP on July 20: the fellowship and the devotion were enjoyed by all. In July, music

and devotions were presented to residents at Poplar Creek





Above: Rev. Paul Stitcher with his Great Grandson Colby Freeman

Left: Colby Freeman with Rev. Terry Rainwater of Highland Baptist Church

News (continued)

Mountville (MBC) - received two new members in July: One by salvation and baptism and the other by statement!

• The 2, 3, and 4 year-olds are enjoying Children's Church, Jr.! They love learning about Jesus and our friends from the Bible. The older kids are also enjoying Children's Church. They are learning scripture in lots of fun ways! • MBC enjoyed a "Christmas in July" event on Sunday, July 28. They enjoyed a traditional Christmas meal, sang Christmas songs, and had a fun gift exchange!





First Baptist - Hogansville hosted a joint worship service with White Oak Grove Baptist Church of Senoia. Their choir set the stage for a Spirit-filled message brought by their pastor, Dr. K.G. Bailey Below: Choir Right: Dr. K.G. Bailey



New Hope (LaGrange) - welcomed two new members in July: Hanna Wilson and Skyler Bailey. • Dr. Kenneth Koon founder of Armed Forces Mission, was the guest speaker on Sunday, June 30. His mission is dedicated to reducing suicide among veterans and first responders. He shared experiences that he has had using Psalm 46 as primary scripture for his testimony in helping those in trouble. "Pray that God will continue to bless his ministry." • The Sisters of Hope July meeting was spent cleaning areas of the church in preparation for the 25th Anniversary celebration to be held on September 29.

- New Hope youth, Spenser Smith, shared his gift of singing with the congregation on Sunday, July 21. "You blessed us and we are so proud of you!" The children's Wet-N-Wild was certainly wet and wild on Wednesday evening, July 10. The kids and even the adults had a great time of "cooling off".
- The Family Night Fish Fry was a huge success. There was good food and fellowship. "Thanks to all the men who prepared and fried the fish. You are truly appreciated."
- HIS Club (Hope Inspired Seniors) met Thursday, July 24 in the Fellowship Hall for lunch. Plans were made for future adventures.



Above: Rick McConnell, Jay Hughes & Ken Foster frying fish for New Hope's Family Night Fish Fry (below)



Unity - The children have enjoyed UKids Summer Fun "God Colors" program this summer. There are two more lessons. The Kids Zone area is being updated; The classrooms and the Children's Church room are being painted.

- The CMG Yard Sale on July 13 was a great success. The money made will go towards missions for the rest of the year.
- The Food Closet was held on July 23. Several families in the community were served.

Announcements

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - The Puppet Ministry will begin August 7 with Mrs. Carolyn Evans teaching the children.

• BTC will be partnering with Clearview Elementary School again this year for school supplies. School begins August 12. Please pray for all children, teachers, principals, bus drivers, maintenance staff, janitorial staff and administration. "May all of you have a successful and safe year and may God put his protective arm around all of you."

Callaway - There is a new ministry at Callaway Baptist! A support group called Fighting Cancer Through Christ meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at the Callaway Café.

Creekside - The First Step Addiction program is held every Thursday at 7pm in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

Davidson - Breakfast every Sunday at 9:00am, Sunday School at 9:45, Worship at 11:00am. All are welcome!

First Baptist on the Square - will host a Men's Event on August 24 at 6:30 pm in the New Life Building on corner of Church St. and W. Haralson St. Join us for a night of encouragement with Jonathan Evans, Dallas Cowboys Chaplain.

Grace - Every Wednesday beginning with a meal: Young Disciples program (PreK - 5th grade) @ 6:30pm Youth Group (6th-12th grade) @ 6:45pm

- Senior's Group meets the first Tuesday of month at 6:30pm.
- WMU meets the second Friday of each month at 1:00pm.
- "Giving Grace Meals" are every third Saturday.
- "Grace Men for Christ" and "Ladies of Grace" meet every third Monday night at 6:30 with a meal followed by a meeting.
- Esther Women's Prayer Group meets the last Monday of every month at 6:30pm. More info at www.gbclagrange.com
- "Making Home Work" parenting class meets the first Wednesday at 6:45pm in the choir room.
- Reformer's Unanimous & Teen Full Throttle meet every Friday at 7pm with a meal at 9pm.

Highland - The WMU will serve lunch to the teachers at Hogansville Elementary School on Friday, August 2, prior to the new school year which begins August 12. They will join others in the community for a prayer walk around Hogansville Elementary School on Saturday, August 3 at 8am to pray for the teachers and students prior to the beginning of the new school year. • Highland will join Ebenezer Presbyterian Church for an "Old Time Gospel Hour" on Sunday, August 11 at 10:30am at the Presbyterian Church. Pastor Terry Rainwater will deliver the message and both choirs will provide special music, along with congregational singing, followed by a covered dish dinner on the grounds! "We look forward to a wonderful day of praise and worship. Everyone is invited to join us."

New Hope Baptist Church

7719 Callaway Rd, Greenville GA 30222

Revival

August 21 - 23 7:00 PM Nightly

Homecoming

August 25 at 11:00 AM Includes Special Music

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Whitlock

Lakeview - Homecoming will be Sunday, October 13 with special music by Erin Dorman and Sheriff James Woodruff will be the guest speaker. "Everyone is invited to attend."

• Donations of nonperishable foods with future expiration dates continue to be needed for the Food Closet. • WMU ladies are collecting donations of food and drinks to be delivered to LaGrange Hospice for the families of patients; other members of Lakeview are also participating in these donations. • Judy King, Chairman of the Troup Baptist Association's WMU Leadership Team along with other team members are planning the annual Prayer Walk of all Troup County Schools. The Prayer Walk will begin with a breakfast and planning meeting at the Troup Baptist Association on Saturday, Aug. 10 at 9 am. All participants are invited to attend.

Mountville (MBC) - will be participating in ARISE FEST on Saturday, September 7 from 3-9 pm at McGhee Ball Field on Church Street in Hogansville, GA. Admission is Free! Live music from *Rush of Fools, Jordan Wray, White Oak Baptist Men's Choir, Josh Gilbert* and more! Dr. Benny Tate will be the guest evangelist. There will also be food trucks and games for the kids. "Please come out for a great afternoon of worship and fellowship in our community."

New Hope (LaGrange) - Sisters of Hope will meet Monday, August 5 at 6pm. Teressia Barber from Dunson Baptist will be the guest speaker. Please bring a finger food to share. All ladies are welcome. • The church directory picture viewing will be held on Tuesday, August 6. This will be the only time to view & purchase pictures. • New Hope Church will celebrate their 25th Anniversary on Sunday, September 29. Mark your calendars! • Operation Christmas Child is underway. Donations are appreciated. Shipping costs will be paid for by the VBS offering.

Unity - The UKids Summer Fun "God Colors" will end with a Movie Night on August 7. • Awana starts August 21 with the Awana Kick-off on August 14 at 6pm. • The next meeting of CMG will be August 19. • The Food Closet will be open next on August 27.

Announcements (continued)



WMU School Prayer Walk Saturday, August 10, 2019 Breakfast at 9:00 am

Goal: \$8,175

For more information, please contact Judy King by email at lilose@outlook.com or by phone (706) 882-0371.

Berta Weathersbee School

School Supply Drive

You may donate by check made payable to:

Troup Baptist Association (memo: Berta School Supplies) Mail to: Troup Baptist Association PO Box 550

LaGrange, GA 30241





TRUTH IN NATURE

Approximately 46 percent of households in LaGrange are comprised of boys being raised without a father. At Truth in Nature, we can help provide a free solution for fatherless boys. For more information contact Jeff Benefield at 706-616-8732 or visit: www.truthinnature.org

The Freedom Tour with Jennie Allen and Christy Nockels
First Baptist Church on the Square
October 10, 2019
Go to fbclagrange.org, about and events to order tickets.

Association - Church Prayer List

For August 2019, please pray for following churches:

Week of August 4, 2019 - Second Baptist Church Week of August 11, 2019 - Shoal Creek Baptist Church Week of August 18, 2019 - Stovall Baptist Church Week of August 25, 2019 - Teaver Road Baptist Church

For September 2019, please pray for following churches:

Week of September 1, 2019 - The Church on the Rock Week of September 8, 2019 - Troup Baptist Association Week of September 15, 2019 - Unity Baptist Church Week of September 22, 2019 - Wehadkee Baptist Church Week of September 29, 2019 - Western Heights Baptist Church

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

Faith Bible Institute

Troup Baptist Association—Satellite Campus

Fall Semester 2 Late Enrollment through August 20 includes The Exodus & The Promised Land, The Life of Christ II, and The Books of Acts.

Tuition & Fees:

New Student \$139 / Spouse \$61 (Late fee of \$28) For more info: www.troupbaptist.org or call 706-884-1975

Troup Baptist Association's Faith Bible Institute

Celebrates

7th Graduation Service Sunday, August 4, 2019 3:00 p.m. at Troup Baptist Sanctuary

Special Music by Kevin Dunn

Charge to the Graduates by Rev. Aaron McCollough

Faith Bible Institute Testimony by Rev. Kenneth Whitlock, Spring 2017 Graduate

Reception following service in Fellowship Hall

Senior Adult Rally 2019

Callaway Baptist Church 310 John Lovelace Road LaGrange, Georgia 30241

Thursday, September 5 at 11:00 AM



Special Guest: Ellen Hester

Ellen is a Christian motivational speaker. Speaking as a character, she delivers fun-filled motivational talks.

Cost \$5.00 per person at the door Meal includes a choice of meat, vegetables, salad, dessert, and drink.

Lots of door prizes!

Please RSVP by calling the Troup Baptist Association (706) 884-1975

AUGUST CALENDAR

- 4 Faith Bible Institute Graduation Service at TBA 3:00pm
- 5 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Tim Tidwell
- 8 Berta Weathersbee Teacher & Staff Breakfast, 8am at TBA
- 10 WMU Breakfast & School Prayer Walk, 9am at TBA
- 12 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Jerry Parkerson
- 19 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship & Meal, 11am at Hillcrest
- 20 Faith Bible Institute, First night of Fall Semester, 6:30pm
- 26 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11am at TBA, Paul Botica

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 August



- 5 Rev. Lamar Womack, Gray Hill
- 6 Rev. Bobby Robinson
- 10 Rev. Bernie Pasley, East Vernon
- 10 Rev. Mike Watson
- 13 Rev. Jerry Johnson, Stovall
- 17 Rev. Frank Abrahamsen, Praise & Prayer
- 21 Rev. Derek Williams, New Macedonia
- 23 Rev. Tifton Dobbs, Anointed By Faith
- 29 Rev. Billy Allen

Pray for our Schools

On The Lighter Side:

Farmer Evans was driving his John Deere tractor along the road with a trailer load of fertilizer. Tim, a little boy of eight, was playing in his yard when he saw the farmer and asked, "What've you got in your trailer?" "Manure," Farmer Evans replied. "What are you going to do with it?" asked Tim. "Put it on my strawberries," answered the farmer. Tim replied, "You ought to come and eat with us, we put ice-cream on our strawberries."

Troup Baptist Association P.O. Box 550 LaGrange, Georgia 30241

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 706-884-1975 Fax: 706-882-8574

Web: www.troupbaptist.org

The Messenger is a Monthly Publication of The Troup Baptist Association P.O. Box 550, 1301 Washington St., LaGrange, Georgia 30241 Office: (706) 884-1975 Fax: (706) 882-8574
Web Address: www.troupbaptist.org. Facebook: www.facebook.com/troupbaptist.org. Facebook: www.facebook.com/troupbaptist.org. Facebook: www.facebook.com/troupbaptist.org.

Rev. Aaron McCollough, Associational Missionary: aaron@troupbaptist.com
Angela Maddux, Administrative Assistant: angela@troupbaptist.com
Rev. Terry Rainwater, Moderator: rainwater001@outlook.com
Rev. Derek Williams, Vice-Moderator: derrickw309@gmail.com
Mr. Daves Nichols, Treasurer
Mrs. Dottie Henson, Assistant Treasurer
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