

Troup Baptist Association

Three Truths That the 2020 Election Will Not Change

It is November 3rd as I sit at my computer writing this column. Today is the day for one of the most historic, monumental, and consequential elections I have witnessed in my sixty-five years of life. And believe it or not, I broke my crystal ball. So, I have absolutely no way of knowing in advance what the outcomes will be for the presidential, senatorial, congressional, and local elections. I suppose I will have to wait, just like the rest of you, and find out who won whenever the results are made public. You would think that God would have given me advance knowledge of the outcome, wouldn't you? (Just kidding!) However, whatever changes may be enacted as a result of today's election, there are some truths that will not change. So, I want to share this thought with you today: Three Truths That the 2020 Election Will Not Change.

1: There Will Always be Winners and Losers

This truth is "cooked-into" the very essence of life as we know it. From time immortal, regardless of the issue, there has always been winners and losers. And

until Jesus comes and takes us home, this will not change. And the reason it will not change is because we choose sides. We waive our flags, toot our horns, and shout, "Hooray for our side!" It is our nature to do so. In fact, I am reminded of a gentleman my wife and I used to play Rook with. When he kept score, he would label the score pad: "Us & Them." I am also reminded of a great quote by President Abraham Lincoln, when asked if he thought God was on the side of the Union. He said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right." Yes, in this life, there will always be winners and losers. We cannot change that. But we can learn to be humble in defeat and gracious in victory. So, win or lose, let us BE KIND! (Please reread the last two sentences!)

2: God is Still in Control

In Acts 9, we find the story of one of the most ruthless men in the Bible, Saul of Tarsus. He was a high ranking and highly educated Jew who had made it his mission to

disrupt Christianity. So much so in fact, that he had obtained the legal authority to arrest and to set the wheels into motion that could ultimately lead to the death of any believer he encountered. (Stephen) But while on the Road to Damascus, he had an encounter with Jesus. And here is the good news, Jesus radically saved him and converted him to Christianity. He then became the Apostle to the Gentiles. Now, if God can do that with Saul, then regardless of who is elected President, He can do the same thing. Of particular note to me in this story, is the disciple named Ananias. God told him to go find Saul, bring him into his house, and to disciple/mentor him. When Ananias protested, God told him, "He is a chosen vessel to me ..." And putting it into the context of today's election, it is the same as God telling us to work with whoever is elected President. And like Ananias, we would be saying something like, "But God, he's a Democrat and I'm a Republican!" or "He's a Republican and I'm a Democrat!" And God is simply saying, "He's a chosen vessel to me. Keep doing what you know to do. Teach him of My ways!"

Three scriptures come to mind regarding God being in control. I encourage you to look them up and read them. Proverbs 19:21, Proverbs 21:1, and Romans 8:28.

3: Until God Calls It All to an End, the World Will Keep Right on Going!

Genesis 8:22(KJV) "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." And believe it or not, events are unfolding verbatim according to the script God has written. Let us not fool ourselves. We are not powerful enough to alter God's script! So, regardless of who wins the election today ... or may ultimately be declared the winner at some point in the future, let us be encouraged by these three truths!

I do not know about you, but I sure am glad that God is in control ... regardless of the outcome of this election!

Brother Aaron

News

Association - The 83rd Annual Meeting of the Troup Baptist Association was held on Monday, October 19 and was moderated by Rev. Terry Rainwater. It was a record breaking meeting for two reasons. The meeting was a hybrid meeting consisting of in-person and Zoom attendees and only lasted 16 minutes! This was strictly a business meeting. During the course of the meeting a Moderator and Vice-Moderator were elected. Rev. Derek Williams, Pastor of New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church was nominated for Moderator and elected by acclamation. Rev. Williams is the first African-American Moderator of the Troup Baptist Association! Rev. Andy Buchanan was nominated for Vice-Moderator and also elected by acclamation. "Congratulations to Rev. Derek Williams and Rev. Andy Buchanan who are willing to serve the association in this capacity." Also, two new churches were accepted into the association in watchcare status for one year: Fountain Baptist Church in Hogansville with Pastor Jason Bennett and Pine View Baptist Church in LaGrange with Deacon Richard Satterwhite. Pine View doesn't have a pastor at this time. Copies of the Book of Reports are available at the association office as well as on troubaptist.org.



Give 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.

Association - Church Prayer List

For November 2020, please pray for following churches:

Week of November 1, 2020 - At The Cross
 Week of November 8, 2020 - Baptist Tabernacle Church
 Week of November 15, 2020 - Bethel Baptist Church
 Week of November 22, 2020 - Bethlehem Baptist Church
 Week of November 29, 2020 - Callaway Baptist Church

For December 2020, please pray for following churches:

Week of December 6, 2020 - Concord Baptist Church
 Week of December 13, 2020 - Confidence Missionary B. C.
 Week of December 20, 2020 - Creekside Baptist Church
 Week of December 27, 2020 - Davidson Baptist Church

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.

- New Student: \$139
- Returning Student: \$97
- FBI Graduate: \$61
- 2nd Family Member; \$61

Spring Semester Online Enrollment through Nov. 15

(late fee of \$28 applies Nov 16 - Jan 19)

Classes begin January 19, 2021

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

Above Left: Stephanie & Rev. Derek Williams (New Macedonia BC)
 Moderator of the Troup Baptist Association (2020-21)

At Left: Kim & Rev. Andy Buchanan (Franklin Road BC)
 Vice-Moderator of the Troup Baptist Association (2020-21)

News (continued)

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - "God has truly blessed our church family with a new member. God is good all the time." • The Food Closet served 475 individuals giving away 210 boxes of food along with bread, meats, vegetables, fruit and pastries. The Food Closet provided 378 meals to shut-ins. They gave 120 backpacks to children at Clearview Elementary for weekend food. The Food Closet is open every Thursday from 9 until 11am. • The Clothes Closet served 152 families. The Clothes Closet is in need of children's clothes and coats. If you would like to donate, you may bring items on Thursdays from 9 until 11am, put them in the drop box or drop off at the office. • For Pastor Appreciation Day, Rev. Jimmy and Merle were given a new car! • BT Prayer Warriors continue to meet on the Square in LaGrange at 10am on Tuesdays. Social distancing is practiced. Everyone is invited to attend. • BTC will have a Blood Drive on November 23 from 2-7 pm. If you are able to donate, please do so. Your donation may save someone's life. • Bags of candy were given to the children of BTC and candy was also donated to Clearview Elementary School for them to distribute in lieu of Trunk or Treating this year. • November 11 is Veteran's Day. Please remember to say thank you to those who have served and are serving today. A lot of veterans have sacrificed for the freedom we have today. "Thank you for your service." • "Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at BTC. May God bless you and your family." *O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Psalm 107:1*



Above: Baptist Tabernacle - For Pastor Appreciation Day, Rev. Jimmy and Merle McMillian were given a new car!
More photos are available on page 5

Creekside - had one salvation this month. "Praise the Lord!"

• Creekside Baptist opened inside services on October 4 with Sunday School at 9:45, Worship at 11:00am and Wednesday evening Bible study at 6:00. Sunday Morning Worship is also on Facebook. • On October 25, Creekside surprised their pastor, Bryan Geter, with a pastor appreciation meal after services. Associational Missionary, Aaron McCollough was the guest speaker. Everyone present had a good time.

Grace - Prayer Warriors prayed at the homes of some of their members recovering from illness and surgery. • Pastor Appreciation Day was held after church on October 25 with soup and sandwiches to say thank you to our great pastor Donnie Benefield. "We are so blessed to have such a devoted man of God to lead us." • Ladies of Grace had a day outing on October 26 to the Rock Garden in Calhoun, GA, then to Mercier Orchards with lunch at the Apple House and a trip to Brasstown Bald. • A Pancake Breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 14 from 8 until 10am. Cost: Adults \$6 Children \$3 (10 and under) • Join us for Sunday School at 10:00am, morning worship in the sanctuary at 10:45am and Wednesday service at 7pm. All services will be streamed live on Facebook and YouTube. Reformer's Unanimous meets every Friday night at 7pm and is on Facebook at 8:30pm and on YouTube. Please check our Webpage www.gbclagrange.com for updates and links or search Grace Baptist Church LaGrange Georgia and RU Recovery Ch. 1078.



Above: Pastor Donnie Benefield and Mrs. Brenda on Pastor Appreciation Day at Grace Baptist Church

Highland - continues to hold Sunday morning services in the Church Sanctuary, as well as by teleconference and Facebook Live. They will continue Wednesday night Prayer Meeting and Bible study by teleconference at 6:00 pm. • On Sunday morning, October 25, Ellen Hubbard presented Pastor Terry Rainwater with a gift from the church in appreciation for what he and Mrs. Cookie do for our church and the community. "We love our pastor family!"



Above L-R: Highland's Pastor Terry Rainwater receives a Pastor Appreciation gift from the church family.
(Presented by Ellen Hubbard)

News (continued)

Hogansville First - honored Pastor Greg Morris, Mrs. Amy and family with a celebratory meal on October 24. The celebration was a trifecta covering his birthday which was in April, his 3rd anniversary as their pastor (in July) and Pastor Appreciation. Members brought their well wishes, cards, and personal messages to add to the happy occasion. • On October 31, the church sponsored Trunk or Treat was held in the church parking lot from 12 noon to 3pm. The day was beautiful and a large crowd came to enjoy games and treats. It was such fun to see the children in their Halloween costumes and such a privilege to share both treats and the love of Jesus. • Since returning to in-person services, we have been blessed to baptize the following new members: Jenna and Kevin Folds, Kirsten Smith, Dustin Michael Keegan, and Victorya Kritko. During this period we have also welcomed Elsie Thaxton and Tammy and John Floyd by transfer of church letter. • Sunday services held each week are Sunday School at 10am and morning worship at 11am. A nursery is provided for both services and Covid-19 precautions are taken. Wednesday Bible Study is online at 7pm.



Hogansville FBC Trunk or Treat: SOAP can cleanse the body, but only JESUS can wash away our sins.

Lakeview - Sunday morning services will continue at 10:00 am. Wednesday night services will change to 6:00 pm effective Nov. 4. Pastor Lamar Truitt was recognized on October 11, Pastor Appreciation Sunday, for all he has done for members during the Covid-19 crisis. Homecoming was Sunday, October 18; thanks to Erin Dorman for special music. Sunday sermons are posted on Lakeview's Facebook page.

Mountville (MBC) - will resume regularly scheduled services beginning November 1. Sunday School will start at 9:45am and Worship Service at 11:00am. Wednesday night Bible Study will start at 6:30pm. "We invite everyone to join us!" • MBC celebrated Bro. Dwayne on Sunday, October 18 for Pastor Appreciation. A picnic lunch was provided for everyone after the morning service. Everyone enjoyed great fellowship! • MBC had a PINK OUT on Sunday, October 25 in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. They honored and remembered those who have battled this disease.

New Hope LaGrange - Worship service is shown on Facebook each Sunday at 11am. • Sunday, August 30, Preacher Mike Hornsby and the deacons ordained Chase Golden to the ministry of the gospel. "We congratulate Chase and pray God's blessings on him as he leads our youth."

New Hope (continued) - Rev. Don Ellison was welcomed as Interim Pastor on Sunday, September 6. He has led the Pastor Search Team in training sessions to help them in their search for a new pastor. Please continue to pray for the search team members. • New Hope welcomed three new babies born in September and October. • Sisters of Hope met in the home of Candy Ellison in October. Candy shared her personal testimony and gave them a word of encouragement. "Thank you, Candy, for your sweet spirit of hospitality." It was a wonderful time of food, fellowship and planning for future projects. The next meeting will be Monday, November 9 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. They will assemble shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. All ladies are invited to come, bring a finger food, and enjoy the fun and fellowship. • The Church Council met October 7 for planning the next three months of ministry for our congregation. Mark your calendars: Wed. Nov. 4 Prayer service and children's program will resume at 6:30pm, Wed. Nov. 18 Thanksgiving Dinner at 6:30 in Fellowship Hall, Sun. Nov. 22 Church Conference, Sun. Nov. 29 Soup Lunch after service for Lottie Moon Christmas Mission Offering, Sun. Dec. 13 Church Business Meeting (new year budget), Wed. Dec. 16 Children's Christmas in Fellowship Hall, Sun. Dec. 20 A Christmas music service. A special thank you to the music team and to those who control the sound and screen: "Thank you for your service and dedication." • We miss and pray for the well being of those who are worshiping with us from their homes. • "We pray you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving. We do have much to be thankful for."

Unity - Awana started back on September 9. They enjoyed Football Team Night on Sept. 23 and Pirate Night on Sept. 30. On October 7, they packed Operation Christmas Child (OCC) boxes, and Oct 14 was Bring a Friend Night, Oct 21 was Dress a Mess and Oct 28 was Character Night. • Current Mission Group (CMG) met October 19 and packed OCC boxes. They will have a Drive-By Chili Luncheon on November 15 at 11:15am with donations for Lottie Moon. They will assemble fruit baskets for shut-ins on November 19. • Unity is having Wednesday morning worship at 10am and Sunday morning worship at 10am. Starting November 1, Sunday School will begin at 9am.

Unity Awanas Character Night



Photos & Announcements



Baptist Tabernacle honored Pastor Jimmy & Merle McMillian in a big way on Pastor Appreciation Day with a new car! (photo above and on right)



Operation Christmas Child
Drop-off Center: First Baptist on the Square
177 Church St. - New Life Building

Monday, Nov. 16	8:30-10 am	5-6 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 17	9-11 am	
Wednesday, Nov. 18	9-11 am	4-5:30 pm
Thursday, Nov. 19	9-11 am	
Friday, Nov. 20	9-11 am	
Saturday, Nov. 21	10 am-12 pm	
Sunday, Nov. 22	11:30 am-1:30 pm	
Monday, Nov. 23	9-11 am	



GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14TH
8:00 - 10:00 AM
ADULTS \$6
CHILDREN \$3 AGE 10 & UNDER



**Unity
Awana**

Left: Dress a
Mess Night

Right: Good
Character
Night



Hogansville FBC Trunk or Treat



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

1

- 1 Daylight Saving Time Ends - Fall back 1 hour.
- 2 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 9 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 16 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 23 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 25-27 GBMB & TBA office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

TBA refers to Troup Baptist Association

Association Prayer Group is not currently meeting but accepting prayer requests by phone (706)884-1975 or www.troubaptist.org
Faith Bible Institute Fall Semester is underway with online classes.

Happy Birthday November

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

Happy Thanksgiving!

Why did the turkey cross the road? It was the chicken's day off!
What did the turkey say to the computer? Google, google, google!
Why does a pilgrim's pants always fall down? Because they wear their belt buckle on their hat.
If pilgrims traveled on the Mayflower, what do college students travel on? Scholar ships.
What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter? Pumpkin pi.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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