

Troup Baptist Association

Change is Coming; It's Inevitable.

Malachi 3:6(a)(KJV) states, "*For I am the LORD, I change not ...*"

One of the great paradoxes of God is, that He, Who is unchanging - changes us. (Ponder that one for a moment.) Change is the only constant in life - and it is not optional! But just because it is not optional, doesn't mean we like it. Mark Twain said, "The only person who likes change is a baby with a wet diaper!" Think about it for a moment. From the moment we were conceived in our mother's womb, change has been our constant companion. It has never been optional. And even when we die, again, change will be our companion.

As individuals, change is coming; it's inevitable. God changes who we are, where we are, and what we are. King David is an excellent example of this. He changed him from a shepherd, to a soldier, to a king. And He reserves the right to do the same with us without so much as asking our permission. The song, "Just as I Am"

is an old Baptist standard. And yes, God does accept us just as we are, but He loves us far too much to leave us that way. He changes us. It's not optional!

As churches, change is coming; it's inevitable. Therefore, I encourage every ministry in every church to do an assessment/evaluation of your area of ministry. Ask and "honestly" answer these questions: What are we supposed to be doing? (Why does this ministry exist?) What are we doing? How well is whatever we are doing working? And if we aren't doing what we are supposed to be doing, what will it take for us to start?

The truth is that change, planned or unplanned, is coming; it's inevitable. But here's another truth. It is normal for us to resist change. (Now that should have made many of you feel better about yourself!) We resist it because it is not always fully understandable - and often it looks impossible! The

Children of Israel at the Walls of Jericho is a good case-in-point! Do you honestly believe that any of the Children of Israel, including their leader Joshua, understood why God told them to march around the walls in silence, then shout, and the walls would come tumbling down? I don't think so! Do you think that perhaps most of them thought it impossible to make those walls fall simply by marching and shouting? I do! And this is exactly why we resist change. We don't understand it and it looks impossible to us. And dare I mention the Red Sea, the Promised Land, or other Biblical miracles that look impossible and we don't understand?

Here is another truth - God gives vision to leaders. Now granted, He doesn't always give the whole picture at once. Often, He gives what is called, "Progressive Revelation." In other words, He gives leaders a vision for change, tells them where they will be leading His people, but says, "Oh, by-the-way, the instructions you need as to how to get to where I am leading you

will be revealed on a need-to-know basis. When you need to know, I will tell you - not before!"

The "take-aways" from this column are simple: 1: The Changeless God is the One Who changes us. 2: Change is the only constant in life; it is not optional. 3: Change, planned or unplanned, is coming; it's inevitable. 4: Because it is not always fully understandable, and often looks impossible, it is normal for us to resist. 5: God gives vision to leaders, but often He utilizes "Progressive Revelation" and only reveals His plan on a need-to-know basis.

I close this column with this: There are two ways we can deal with change. We can be proactive or reactive. Which are you? Honestly, all too often I find myself being reactive. I'm very good at closing the gate - after the cows are out! I don't plan to fail; I simply fail to plan! Therefore, I find myself being reactive instead of proactive. Change is far more palatable when it's proactive!

Brother Aaron

Association News

Association - The 84th Annual Meeting of the Troup Baptist Association was held on Monday, October 18 at 11:00 am and was moderated by Rev. Derek Williams, Pastor of New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. During the business meeting, Rev. Derek Williams and Rev. Andy Buchanan were elected to serve a second term as Moderator and Vice-Moderator, respectively. "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 full membership in the association: Hope Fellowship Hogansville with Pastor Jason Bennett and Pineview Baptist Church in LaGrange with Rev. Joel Scott. A new church plant, True Believers Ministry with Pastor Patrick Turner, was accepted into the association in watchcare status for one year. True Believers Ministry is meeting in the Flat Shoals Baptist Church facility in West Point, Ga. Following the business portion of the meeting, Vice-Moderator Andy Buchanan brought a message from Genesis chapters 39-40 on the life of Joseph. He challenged us to 1. Be faithful because God is faithful, 2. Stay connected to God, 3. Don't forget your dreams, passions, and God's calling on your life. There were 45 in attendance representing 17 churches. Following the meeting, everyone was invited to stay for a BBQ lunch catered by Sloppy Pig Catering of LaGrange. Copies of the Book of Reports are available at the association office. If your or your church would like one, please call Angela at 706-884-1975 to request copies.



Above: Attendees enjoyed a BBQ lunch following the Annual Meeting held on Monday, October 18.

Association - The first of three Medicare Consultation days was held on October 19 with Belinda Meadows of Three Rivers Regional Commission. Everyone said they received very helpful and unbiased information. There are only a few more appointment times left on Monday, November 29. If you would like an appointment, please call Angela at the association office at 706-884-1975.



Above: Ms. Belinda Meadows (L) with Rev. Lamar and Mrs. Carol Truitt (R) at their Medicare consultation.

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.



Above L: Vice-Moderator Andy Buchanan



Above R: Moderator Derek Williams



Associational Missionary Aaron McCollough was one of several speakers at the Sixth Annual March for Jesus held on Saturday, October 16 in LaGrange. Thank you to Doris & Dr. Joe Almand for coordinating this event each year! The march started at the Sweetland Amphitheatre and concluded on



the Square in LaGrange. The purpose of the march is to lift up the name of Jesus and thank Him for the numerous blessings He has bestowed on us!

If you or someone you know would like to be added to the mailing list for this newsletter, please call the Troup Baptist Association at 706-884-1975 and give your name & address.

Church News & Announcements

The Pocket Cross Ministry - Pictured below, is the new display that my friend, Don Mahaffey has designed and is incorporating into his ministry: The Pocket Cross Ministry. The goal of the ministry is to give these pocket crosses to people, free of charge, as a way of witnessing to them about Jesus. Bro. Don would love to setup one of these displays in your church. He would also love to come and share about this ministry with your evangelism team, men's ministry, and women's ministries - or any ministry in your church. This display will help financially fund this ministry. I wholeheartedly support Bro. Don and this ministry. You may email him at: pocketcrossesfromtheheart@gmail.com. ~Bro. Aaron



Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - The Food Closet served 336 individuals giving away 137 boxes of food, 280 meals to shut-ins and 120 weekend backpacks to children at Clearview Elementary School. The Clothes Closet served 161 families and gave away 16 coats. The Food and Clothes Closets are open every Thursday from 9 to 11 am. • The BT Prayer Warriors continue to meet on the Square in LaGrange at 10 am on Tuesdays. Devotion and prayer is held. Everyone is invited to attend. • A Prayer Walk was held on October 17 for Jake and Emily Banks to pray for healing. • An Appreciation Dinner for Pastor Jimmy & Merle McMillian was held on October 17. • Awanas had Bible Hero Night on October 13. The children came dressed as their favorite Bible hero and explained what it meant to them. On October 27 there was a hayride for the Awanas. • BTC will be hosting a Blood Drive on November 29 from 2-7 pm. If you are able to donate, please do so. Your donation may save someone's life. • Thursday, 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. So from Baptist Tabernacle, "Thank you for your service!" • Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night November 6 so you don't arrive late for Sunday services on November 7. • Hunters for Christ will be selling smoked Turkeys and Boston Butts again this year. They are \$40 each. Pickup will be on November 24 from 5-7 pm. Call Brian Huckleberry at 706-616-2000 to purchase tickets. This is a fundraiser for Hunters for Christ. • "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*

Dunson - Pastor Appreciation was held Sunday, October 24 at the outdoor service and again during the indoor service. Pastor Kenneth Cole received cards, a money tree and his wife Pam was presented flowers and cards. Refreshments, hot chocolate and coffee were served. "We certainly love and appreciate our Pastor and his family."

Dunson (continued) - On Sunday, October 31, Dunson hosted a Trunk or Treat Trail of Bible Stories. Candy was sent by shoot down to the kiddos. At the end, they were given a Bible storybook with pictures. • Dunson has had drive-in services since COVID began. With the decline in cases, they are planning to start indoor services exclusively the middle of November while still keeping safety precautions in place. They are also looking to restart ministries put on hold due to COVID. • Dunson is excited to have Steve Vickery serving as music director and they welcome Steve and Wanda. • The annual Soup and Chili pre-Thanksgiving luncheon will be held Sunday, November 21, following the 11am service. "Please join us. We invite all who may be looking for a church to come and worship with us."



Dunson
Trunk or Treat Trail



Church News & Announcements

FBC Hogansville - A testimony is meant to be shared, and on October 14 Debbie Dollar shared hers with the folks at Sonrise Baptist Church in Newnan. She had a little backup from friends for the occasions. (see photo below)



- The Youth Group of Hogansville First Baptist Church lit up the grill and sold fried bologna sandwiches at the Hogansville Hummingbird Festival on Saturday, October 16. Their efforts were successful, and they had a great time providing this tasty Southern treat to festival visitors. The Youth Group is under the direction of Mrs. Monica Johnson. (see photo below)



- October is Pastor Appreciation month, and we “donut” know what we would do without Pastor Greg Morris. On October 17 during breakfast fellowship, they enjoyed celebrating him with donuts, the trimmings, and lots of good wishes. Many took this opportunity to share special messages with him. “We thank God for sending Pastor Greg to our church; we appreciate his leadership and his concern for our community.”
- Pastor Greg had the pleasure of baptizing Randy Wallace and Dakota Green this month. “We are grateful to be a part of their new life in Christ.”
- Halloween was celebrated with a Trunk or Treat in the church parking lot on October 30. They shared treats, fun, and Christian love with the community.
- The Operation Christmas Child goal is to fill 20 boxes. The deadline for returning the boxes to the church is November 14. Please see Sondra Lee with any questions.

FBC Hogansville: Pastor Greg on Pastor Appreciation Day →

Grace - Ladies of Grace held a goodbye luncheon for their president Shirley Hosack who is moving to the Blue Ridge Mountains. • 72 Boxes of Free Food was distributed in October. • Pastor Appreciation Lunch was held October 31st after the service. (pictures next month) • Deacon Ordination will be November 14th after 6:00 p.m. service followed by a reception. • Join Grace for Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., morning worship in the sanctuary at 10:45 a.m., evening Discipleship Training at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. Children’s Church PreK-3rd grades and Teen Ministry 6th - 12th grades. Generation Now will meet every 1st & 3rd Sundays during Worship for PreK-Age 20. Children’s and Teen Ministries will meet in the George Harris Building. Our services are streamed live on our Facebook page and available on our YouTube page. Reformer’s Unanimous meets every Friday night at 7:00 p.m. and streams live on Facebook at 8:30 p.m. and available on their YouTube page. Please check our Webpage <http://www.gbclagrange.com/> for updates and links to Facebook and YouTube or search Grace Baptist Church LaGrange Ga and RU Recovery Ch. 1078.



Grace: Ladies of Grace held a Goodbye Luncheon for their President, Shirley Hosack.



Church News & Announcements

Highland - Clyde Woempner blessed the congregation with several selections on the accordion during October's Wednesday Hymn Sing. "We appreciate him sharing his special talent with us." • Pastor Terry English and his daughter, Lisa Kelley, provided the special music with two beautiful selections during Morning Worship Service on October 17. "We are always happy to have them worship with us whenever he visits his family in Georgia."

• For Pastor Appreciation Month, they celebrated Pastor Terry and Cookie with a luncheon following Morning Worship Service on October 24. "We love our Pastor family and are thankful to have them serve at Highland."

• Highland will host a fundraiser sale on November 12-13 (Fri. & Sat.) from 9 am until noon in the fellowship hall. There will be quilted items, miscellaneous goods and various raffles every half-hour. All proceeds go to support God's Bread Basket. • Highland will host a community-wide Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 21 at 5 pm. Everyone is welcome. • Highland will have the annual Hanging of the Green ceremony during Morning Worship Service on December 5. This is a beautiful service with hymns and Christmas selections being sung while decorating the sanctuary for the Christmas season. "Everyone is invited to join us for this special service."



Highland: (above) Clyde Woempner playing the accordion (below) Rev. Terry English and daughter, Lisa Kelley.



Lakeview - Homecoming was October 10 with former Pastor Don Ellison as the special speaker. A plaque in memory of founding member Nancy Heflin was presented to her husband Sam Heflin (pictured with his daughter Sharon Woodruff and his son Guy Heflin). A bountiful lunch was enjoyed after the morning worship. • Thanksgiving will be celebrated with a luncheon on November 14.



Lakeview: (above L-R) Sharon Woodruff, Sam Heflin and Guy Heflin receiving a plaque in memory of Nancy Heflin, founding member of Lakeveiw Baptist Church.

Mountville (MBC) - welcomed one new member by salvation & baptism! Praise the Lord! • MBC was honored to partner with Rosemont Baptist Church and other local churches to provide large goody baskets for all the staff at Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center. "We appreciate all of our healthcare workers!" • The children of MBC continue to learn about Jesus! The little ones have been learning that God created the animals! • Mountville Mpac enjoyed a trip to Callaway Gardens and a Lock-In on Friday, October 22. They also led worship and Jacob Walker brought the morning message on Sunday, October 24. Jacob is Rev. Aaron & Mrs. Marianne McCollough's grandson. "We are so proud of our youth! • Mountville is still in need of a pianist. If interested, please contact Bro. Dwayne at 706-881-4003.



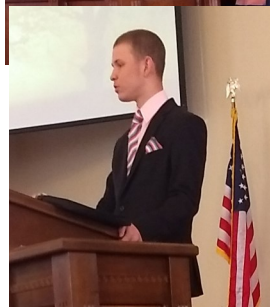
Mountville Baptist Church - Preschool Class

Church News & Announcements

Mountville Youth Day



Mountville Youth (above) led worship on Youth Sunday, October 24



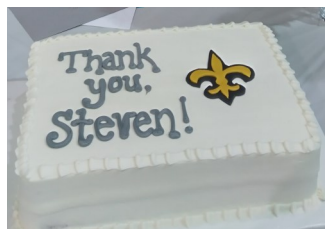
At Left: Jacob Walker brought the morning message on Youth Sunday. Jacob is the grandson of Rev. Aaron & Mrs. Marianne McCollough.

New Hope LaGrange - Sisters of Hope sponsored a Soup Lunch on Sunday, October 24. All donations went to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. On the same day, they celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day with a gift, a beautiful cake and many cards for Pastor Steven to let him know that they love and are thankful for him. He and Megan will get to enjoy a football game in Atlanta in January watching their favorite New Orleans team play the Falcons. "Thank you Steven and Megan for your leadership. We love you and continue to pray for you." • Thanks to all who gave their time on Saturday, October 23 to refresh, paint, and clean the church building and grounds. It's great to not only worship together but to also work together. • Sisters of Hope will enjoy a craft night on Monday, November 1 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. "Ladies, please come and join our fellowship together and bring a food to share." • The youth enjoyed a night of fun, food, and bowling in Newnan on October 24. "The group is growing and we praise the Lord for that!"

• "We look forward to seeing you at our Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 17 at 6 pm. Everyone is encouraged to bring a friend, a co-worker, a neighbor or a family member with you to celebrate the goodness of God together and reach out to others with the gospel."



New Hope Youth



New Hope LaGrange (above) enjoyed a soup lunch to benefit the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. New Hope LaGrange (right) Pastor Steven Cheek with his wife Megan on Pastor Appreciation Day



New Macedonia - Bro. Freddie Lighty Jr. was ordained as deacon on September 26, 2021. Photo at right is Deacon Lighty on left with Pastor Derek Williams on right.



Unity - has a lot going on! The CMG ladies have been participating in the Elijah: Faith and Fire bible study by Priscilla Shirer. They have also put together Operation Christmas Child boxes. The men are also participating in a weekly bible study on the Gospel of John and the Brotherhood had their first men's breakfast on Saturday, October 23. • The UKids and Lifeline Youth Ministry participated in trips to Noah's Ark Wild Animal Sanctuary and Roosevelt State Park for hiking and swimming. The Youth also had a Lock-in and are putting on a Fall Festival for the AWANA kids on Wednesday, October 27. One of our wonderful children workers, Debra Garrison, moved to South Carolina and the children had a going away party for her. "We miss Miss Debra!" • Unity is also updating their Sanctuary with new flooring and chairs. "We are very excited about these projects!" • The choir is currently working on the Christmas Musical, "Glory Touching Earth" to be presented on Sunday, December 12.

Wehadkee - October was Pastor Appreciation Month, and Pastor Nick Pilgrim received many cards of appreciation and gifts from his congregation for being the great pastor that he is. • The fifth Sunday was Communion and fellowship. They enjoyed a morning full of praise, worship, and a good service followed by good food and fellowship. • Wanda Treadwell and Debbie Cliett are celebrating birthdays this month and Dan and Suellen Shea are celebrating an anniversary.

Church News & Announcements

Austin French Concert benefitting First Choice Women's Center

When: November 11th, 2021
7:00pm - 8:30pm

Where: First Baptist on the Square -
New Life Building



Tickets are \$5 ea and are available at Eventbrite.com or by calling the First Choice Women's Center at 706-884-3833

Faith Bible Institute

Do you wish you knew more about the Bible?

As a satellite campus of Faith Bible Institute, the Troup Baptist Association just may have exactly what you are looking for! Faith Bible Institute is a six-semester course that teaches the Bible in a clear, concise manner. The class meets in person each Tuesday, with your choice of morning or evening classes at the association office. Online classes are also available.

Registration for Spring Semester is open.

Call the association office at 706-884-1975 or visit www.troubaptist.org for more information.

Dementia & Alzheimer's Support Group for Caregivers

Meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 am
November 4, December 2, January 6

Location: Troup Baptist Association
1301 Washington St., LaGrange GA

Looking for Support, Answers & Resources?
You are not alone - Join others like you!

For more info, call the association office at 706-884-1975



It's that wonderful
Operation Christmas Child
time of the year!

Get your shoe-boxes ready, go shopping, write a note and include a photo. Stuff those boxes with all the goodies you bought, put a big rubber band around it, and it's ready to turn in to your church or take to the Drop-Off Center at First Baptist Church on the Square in LaGrange. Or you may "Build a Shoebox Online" and Operation Christmas Child will do all of the work for you. Children around the world are waiting to hear about Jesus, please don't let them down.

**Drop-Off Location: First Baptist on the Square
New Life Center November 15-22**



FUND RAISER SALE!

- ✓ **quilted items!**
- ✓ **miscellaneous goods!**
- ✓ **various raffles every half-hour!**

HELD AT:
HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
409 ASKEW AVE
HOGANSVILLE GA

NOVEMBER 12-13
(FRIDAY & SATURDAY)
9:00A-NOON

All proceeds go to support God's Bread Basket
SERVING PEOPLE LIVING IN THE HOGANSVILLE ZIP-CODE SINCE 2009

Grieving?

Know someone who is?

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our *Surviving the Holidays* seminar helps participants discover:

- How to deal with emotions
- What to do about traditions
- Helpful tips for surviving social events
- How to find hope for the future

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

GRIEF SHARE®

Saturday, November 6
10:00am - 12:00pm

OR

Saturday, December 4
10:00am - 12:00pm

Call 706-882-3482 or go to
frbclagrange.org/grief

to register or find out more about this
encouraging seminar at

FRANKLIN ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
1424 New Franklin Road
LaGrange, GA 30240

Association - Church Prayer List

For November 2021, please pray for following churches:

Week of November 7, 2021 - Antioch Baptist Church (LaGrange)
Week of November 14, 2021 - At The Cross
Week of November 21, 2021 - Baptist Tabernacle Church
Week of November 28, 2021 - Bethel Baptist Church

For December 2021, please pray for following churches:

Week of December 5, 2021 - Bethlehem Baptist Church
Week of December 12, 2021 - Callaway Baptist Church
Week of December 19, 2021 - Concord Baptist Church
Week of December 26, 2021 - Confidence Missionary Baptist Church

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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 1 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 4 Dementia Support Group, 10:00 am with Beth Dow
- 7 Daylight Saving Time Ends - Turn clocks back one hour.
- 8 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 15 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 18 Medicare Private Consultations / TBA Office, by appt only
- 22 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 24-26 TBA Office closed for Thanksgiving
- 29 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 29 Medicare Private Consultations / TBA Office, by appt only

TBA refers to Troup Baptist Association

Association Prayer Group meets by conference call Wed. at 11am
Prayer requests by phone (706)884-1975 or www.troubaptist.org

Faith Bible Institute Fall Semester is in session
with online and day classes at TBA.

Happy Birthday
November



- 2 Rev. Jerome Hicks
- 15 Rev. Ray Tarwater
- 15 Pastor Terry Gray, The Church on the Rock
- 16 Rev. Steve Sexton
- 22 Rev. Steve Johnson, Bethel

Happy Thanksgiving!



On The Lighter Side:

Our company gives out Thanksgiving turkeys to retired employees. All they have to do is stop by the plant to pick them up. A few days before the holiday, a retiree called to ask, "What time do the turkeys get in?" The receptionist, without thinking, responded, "Everyone starts at eight."

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