May 2022

Troup Baptist Association

Information, Inspiration, or Transformation?

Answer: What are the possible responses to worship?

In my years of ministry, I have thought often of the possible responses to times of worship. Not just in terms of going to a church service, but also of personal worship—my personal worship. And of the many "results" I thought of, I narrowed it down to the most common and these three words surfaced. Don't look at these from bad to good, a better way would be to see them as good, better, and best.

It's good to get information from the Lord and His Word. In fact, that's better information for living than we can get on all the news channels combined. There's no doubt that we need information from God, about God, and concerning God's ways. We need to be people of deep Biblical information. But "knowing the Bible backward and forwards" can never be our end goal, there must be more than mental assent.

It's better to be inspired by God's Word and His presence. Inspiration gets the motor running. Inspiration stirs us up and gets our emotions heightened. We are "feeling" the need and desire to DO SOMETHING! But oh those tricky "feelings." As quickly as we can feel caught up in something, those feelings can fade and we will fall out of it. Emotions run high and extreme, but they also go low and despair. Inspiration might bring a change, or it might not. It might cause you to act, but it might not. It's fickle, like a child in a candy store. "I want that, no that, no that, definitely that, no that for sure...no that's what I want—maybe." By far, my BEST response to God (His Word, Worship, and a Worship Service) is TRANSFORMATION. God is in the business of transformation. Through the Cross of Jesus Christ, He transformed us from sinners to the REDEEMED. Through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, He is transforming us from death to LIFE. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, in those who are redeemed, He is SANCTIFYING us into the image of Jesus Christ. So, my response to an encounter with God through His Word, prayer, or a worship experience MUST always be adjusting my life to His Holiness and perfection. The information is good, the inspiration is better, but the TRANSFORMATION is what I must submit to as a child of God.

Just the other day I heard Dr. Tony Evans share that if you are in England and see a British person looking at their watch and looking up, you can be sure they are checking their little clock by Big Ben, the big clock. And if the time on their little clock doesn't match up to the time on the big clock, then they must change their little clock, because Big Ben is the standard. Jesus, the living Word, is our Standard, and God's plan is to transform us into His image. We must adjust.

Here's a little prayer I wrote down as I meditated on these things this month. I want to encourage you to pray this each time you sit down in church for a class or service, or when you open God's Word, or before you spend time in prayer:

"Lord, I'm not just here for information, because I can get that on Google. I'm not just here for inspiration, I can get that by listening to my favorite song. Lord, I am here for transformation, because I want to be more like Jesus."

I'm praying that each one of us will be submissive to the transformation that God wants to do in us and through us. Love and Blessings,

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 50:10

Bro Hndy

Association News & Announcements

Association - Troup Baptist Association along with the Georgia Baptist Foundation hosted a Church Financial Compliance Seminar on April 7 at the association office. Over 30 pastors and church finance leaders from the West Central region were in attendance. Rev. Tony Neal, Executive Pastor and CPA provided much needed and relevant information regarding tax liabilities for ministers and tax requirements for churches. Mr. Ken Tan of CapinCrouse presented information related to church financial planning, such as debt ratios, current giving trends, and church financial safeguards. A Chick-fil-A meal and snacks were provided by the Georgia Baptist Foundation for all attendees.



Church Financial Compliance Seminar on April 7

Association - A huge assortment of snacks were provided to the Berta Weathersbee School teachers and staff in recognition and support of them during Teacher Appreciation Week. "Thank you to all teachers who are serving on the front lines in our schools. We appreciation you!"

On Friday, May 27, Troup Baptist Association will host an End-of School Breakfast for the teachers and staff of Berta Weathersbee. We need pastors and servers. If you would like to help, please call the association office at 706-884-1975.



Above: Mission Strategist Andy Buchanan with Ms. Joy Moore receiving the snacks for Berta Weathersbee teachers.

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 - The Executive Committee of the Troup Baptist Association met on Thursday, April 28 to conduct the business of the association. Dr. Lamar Truitt, Pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church played his guitar in accompaniment to Stephanie Walker as she led the group in singing hymns prior to the business portion of the meeting. Mission Strategist, Andy Buchanan gave a short devotional and later spoke to the group about his first two months as Mission Strategist, and updated everyone on the current cleanup and maintenance efforts at Rockridge Baptist Assembly as well as upcoming events of the association such as Children's Camp Rockridge (June 20-23) and the annual Truckloading Event for Georgia Baptist Children's Homes. This year the Truckloading Event will be one month later than usual on July 25-27. More information coming soon. This would be a good mission project for your children at Vacation Bible School. Judy King, Associational WMU Leader along with her leadership team is planning a WMU luncheon tentatively for August 27.

Association - Mission Strategist Andy Buchanan, has spoke to a number of groups and congregations within the Troup Baptist Association. He met and spoke to the Brotherhood of Gray Hill Baptist Church, and has preached in several of our churches: New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Reeds Chapel Baptist Church and First Baptist Church on the Square. If you would like to invite Bro. Andy to speak at your church, please call the association office 706-884-1975.



Left: Pastor Lamar Womack of Gray Hill Baptist Church Right: Mission Strategist Andy Buchanan

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - Last month, the Food Closet served 245 individuals, with 106 boxes of food and 294 meals, and 120 backpacks were given to children for weekend food. The Clothes Closet continues to be very busy. They served 179 individuals last month. • On April 17, Easter Sunday, the Cross was beautifully decorated to honor our Savior. The Easter Service was a blessing to all. • Awanas is having a busy time. April 13 was Grand Prix Night, the Awana Store was on April 20 and April 27 was balloon night. "Thanks to all the volunteers for making this year a success." • The Prayer Warriors continue to meet every Tuesday at 10 am on the Square in LaGrange. Everyone is invited to come and pray with them. • Mother's Day is May 8. BTC will be honoring all mothers attending that day. "We would like to wish each mother a very happy and blessed day. We love our mothers at BTC." • Congratulations to all those graduating this spring. BTC will be honoring graduates on May 22. We wish you the best as you continue on your life's journey. Remember, with God all things are possible. • Memorial Day is May 30. Remember all the ones who have served and the ones who are still serving today. • VBS will be July 18-22. • BTC wishes each one a happy, healthy, and spiritual summer. "May God bless each of you."

Bethel - Please pray for Bethel Baptist Church in West Point, as they search for a pastor.

Creekside - hosted The Inspirations on March 10. It was truly a Spirit-filled service. • On March 14, the Sisterhood met and had fun at a pajama party and movie night watching "Soul Surfer". The meeting was hosted by Christy Adams and Cassie Zito. • On March 18, the Brotherhood met and Nathan Worthy gave a moving testimony. • On Sunday morning, March 20, they surprised their pastor's wife, Janet Geter, for Pastor's Wife's Appreciation Day. Mrs. Janet was presented with flowers and a gift card along with many kind words from the members. That evening, Creekside members went to Long Cane Baptist Church for a joint service. • All enjoyed the Karaoke night on March 26. • On April 10, the Creekside choir performed their Easter program, "He's Alive Today." The Sisterhood met on April 11 and enjoyed a great salad meal organized by Lea Billingsley. Tammy Ferrell gave her moving testimony. • Creekside joined Stovall Baptist Church for Easter Sunrise Service with Rev. Bryan Geter bringing the message. They all enjoyed breakfast after the service. • The Easter Egg Hunt was postponed until April 23 due to weather. Regardless, they all had a great time hiding and hunting eggs. The adults joined in with an egg hunt after dark using flashlights. • Creekside held a revival from April 24 through April 27 with Rev. Jason May, Rev. Ricky Lipp, and Rev. Danny Geter bringing the messages. • On April 30, they joined Friendship Baptist Church in a benefit singing. Those singing were The Wisener Family, Creekside Baptist Choir, David Daniel, The Turkey Creek Pickers, and the Christian Airs. Offerings went towards the Friendship Baptist Church building fund.

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.

Dunson - April was a very busy month at Dunson Baptist. Two young adults prayed to receive Christ and followed in Baptism. • The Easter Egg Hunt and Hotdog Luncheon was on Sunday afternoon, April 9. • Easter Sunday was high attendance Sunday as well as the Easter Cantata. • Dunson also has a Relay for Life Team and was represented at the walk on April 29 at Faith Baptist Church. • Dunson Baptist was represented at the annual Georgia Baptist Women's Spring Event in Warner Robins on April 22 & 23. Lisa Harper was the speaker. Morning and afternoon breakout sessions were offered with topics related to missions and personal growth. "We definitely left this event refreshed and renewed in our walk with Jesus Christ."





Above L-R: Georgia Baptist Women's Spring Event Attendees from Dunson were Pam Cole, Kay Abrams, Wanda Vickery, Theresa Miller and from Rosemont, Pam Murphy.

FBC Hogansville - celebrated Pastor Greg Morris' birthday on April 3 with a covered dish meal after church. They had plenty of his favorites, and everyone had a good time of fellowship and fun. • Celebrate Recovery hosted a classic car show on April 9 which brought a large crowd to view vehicles from the late 1920s to more current models. Trophies were given in several categories. The winner in the motorcycle category was a 9/11 Tribute Bike honoring the firemen who answered the call on that tragic day. The event raised over \$2,500 which will go toward helping people recover from addictions. The group meets at First Baptist every Sunday at 3 pm. • There were many Easter festivities beginning with an egg hunt for the children on Wednesday evening, April 13. Then on Saturday morning there was an opportunity to have breakfast with the Easter bunny and have pictures made. Many thanks to all the helpers who worked hard to provide this fun for our folks, young and less young. The glorious Easter Sunday began with a sunrise service at 7 am during which time the men's choir sang on the steps of the church. Our morning service followed at the normal time with Pastor Greg bringing the good news of the Resurrection. • The Homecoming celebration on April 24 honored 154 years of service in Hogansville. The guest speaker was Dr. Paul Baxter, retired Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church on the Square (LaGrange). Dr. Baxter delivered a stirring message and charged them to continue the three principles of discipleship, fellowship, and worship as they minister to their community. Special music was provided by The Ward Family from Phenix City, AL. They blessed the congregation with excellent singing and encouragement. Following the service a covered dish meal was served. Plentiful food, a big crowd, and much enjoyment made this a homecoming to remember. "Thanks to all who made this day possible." • The Men's Ministry sponsored its first annual Golf Tournament at the Hogansville Golf Club on Saturday, April 30. It was a 4-person golf scramble, and prizes were awarded to the first and second place teams.

• The long awaited ramp is now complete, and we are thankful to have it. Pastor Greg will place a plaque on the ramp to honor two of our deacons who recently passed away and who were instrumental in many such projects at church. Mr. Terry Searels and Mr. Huell Stephens well deserve this recognition of their efforts on behalf of the church. • First Baptist Church of Hogansville has been recognized by the Georgia Baptist Mission Board as being one of the top 20 baptizing churches in 2021 during which 22 people were baptized. "We are honored and we praise God for this opportunity."



FBC Hogansville Celebrates Pastor Greg Morris' Birthday.

Grace - Men of Christ and others built a ramp for Chad Cook.
Eighty Boxes of Free Food serving 210 people were distributed in April. Free boxes of food are available to anyone that wants it every 3rd Saturday. Drive through starts

anyone that wants it every 3rd Saturday. Drive through star at 10:00 am. • Pastor Donnie Benefield's birthday was celebrated a day later after service on Sunday April 10th.

• There was a good turn out for the Easter Egg Hunt.

• Easter Sunrise Service was followed with breakfast prepared by the Men of Christ. • Grace will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive, Thursday, May 12 from 2:00-7:00 pm. • Sunday School is at 9:45 am, morning worship at 10:45 am, evening Discipleship Training by Jimmy Pruitt at 6:00 pm and Wednesday service at 7:00 pm. Children's Church PreK-3rd grades and Teen Ministry 6th - 12th grades, Generation Now will meet every 1st & 3rd Sundays during Worship for 4th Grade-Age 20. Children's and Teen Ministry's will meet in the George Harris Building. Services are streamed live on Facebook and available on YouTube. Reformer's Unanimous meets every Friday night at 7 pm and 3rd Talk streams live on Facebook at approx. 8:00-8:30 pm and is available on YouTube. Please visit www.gbclagrange.com for updates and links to Facebook and YouTube or search Grace Baptist Church LaGrange Georgia and RU Recovery Ch. 1078.



Grace: Men of Christ built a Ramp for Chad Cook





Above Left: Dr. Baxter speaking at FBC Hogansville's Homecoming Right: Grace Baptist celebrated Pastor Donnie Benefield's Birthday.

Gray Hill - On a foggy Easter morning at 7 am, 31 people, ranging in age from baby to 86 years old, gathered outside Gray Hill Baptist Church to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! Joy penetrated the air as Pastor Lamar Womack led in singing, "He Arose" and "He Lives" followed by a Spirit-filled sermon on the resurrection. Afterwards in the fellowship hall, they all enjoyed a delicious home-cooked breakfast lovingly prepared by Gray Hill Baptist members.







Above: Gray Hill's Easter Sunrise Breakfast

Highland - A large crowd from different churches in the community gathered at Ebenezer Presbyterian Church in Hogansville for a Maundy Thursday service (Seven Sayings from the Cross). Seven pastors were given seven minutes each to speak about a saying from the cross. Pastor Terry Rainwater was the Moderator, as well as a speaker. Each speaker gave insights into Jesus's sayings from the cross. It was a powerful service. • There was a good turnout for Sunrise Service on Easter morning, followed by breakfast in the fellowship hall. The choir presented the cantata "Redeemed" during Morning Worship Service. "It was beautiful!" • Mothers will be recognized and honored on Mother's Day, May 8. Special recognition will be given to the oldest and youngest mothers in attendance.



Above L-R: Maundy Thursday Service Speakers were (L-R) Render Godfrey of Pure Worship Deliverance Ministries, Harrison Cain of Ebenezer Presbyterian, Terry Rainwater of Highland, Randal Hodge of Hogansville Church of God, James Calhoun of Family Worship Center, John Evans of First Methodist Hogansville, and George Bailey of White Oak Grove Baptist in Senoia.

Lakeview - Donations are still being accepted for a city water connection. Masks continue to be optional. Choir practice has been temporarily put on hold. • The men of the church repaired the entryway to the back door and the side door of the church; their work is much appreciated. • WMU met at the Nutwood Plantation's restaurant on Saturday, April 9 at 11 am; Patricia Spradley gave the devotional for the group. A large crowd attended Easter services. Members made generous donations for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

• A surprise birthday party was held for Sidney Lanier on his 96th birthday on April 20. He is a World War II veteran and a faithful and long-term member of Lakeview.



Above: Mr. Sidney Lanier (2nd from right) celebrates his 96th Birthday with family members at Lakeview Baptist Church.

Mountville (MBC) • The kids had a great time at the Easter Egg Hunt! They learned the story of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection and that the empty eggs are a reminder that the tomb was empty! MBC enjoyed a beautiful homecoming service on Sunday, April 10 with lunch on the grounds! Join MBC for VBS---June 6-10---Dinner will be served each night starting at 5:00 pm! (photos next page)





Mountville Kids Easter Egg Hunt

New Hope (LaGrange) - The Easter Egg Hunt was a success despite the rain on Saturday morning, April 16th. The activities were moved inside to the Worship Center, Sunday School classrooms and the Family Life Center. Besides the egg hunt, there was face painting, bean bag toss, jumping jack, a place for families to take Easter pictures, and flavored ice cones. Each child who attended was given a bag with candy and a church tract presenting the plan of salvation. Everyone had a great time. • The youth meet each week on Wednesday evening at 6:00. A meal is served before class and activity time. If you have a youth who is not attending a youth group anywhere, you are cordially invited to join them at New Hope where summer activities are being planned. • Please mark your calendar for VBS from July 18 to 22 beginning at 9 am. All children through 5th grade are invited. • A church-wide picnic will be Sunday, May 15 after the worship service at Hardley Creek Park in Lanett, AL (at the dam), shelter A. Bring a side dish or a dessert. The church will provide pulled pork sandwiches and bottled water. Everyone is invited, so bring your lawn chair and enjoy the afternoon food and fellowship. • Very soon school will be over for the year. We pray that all our students and teachers have a very wonderful, safe, and blessed summer vacation.

Roper Heights - April 9 was the Easter egg hunt for the kids and a fellowship. Fun was had by all. "The Lord has a hold on our church!" Two new members were added this month. Easter was a wonderful day; our Lord is alive! There was a great sunrise service followed by breakfast and fellowship. The Easter program was meaningful with scripture reading and special singing to go with it. Then Pastor Eric Rice, preached the word. "Come and see what's going on at Roper Heights; you'll be glad you did! We can't wait to see what else the Lord has planned for us."

Wehadkee - Celebrating our Lord with our Sunrise Service was wonderful. "Thank you, Sister Kim Sams and Sister Janet

Pilgrim for an awesome breakfast afterwards."

Following breakfast, they placed their breakfast table center pieces on the cross for a beautiful transformation. Pictured with the cross from left to right are: Brittney Fields, Stetson Parmer, and Eleanor Parmer.

The month of May brings beautiful flowers and Happy Mother's Day on May 8th.

May Birthday: Chase Traylor on the 18th.

May Anniversary: Randy and Sharon Mickle on the 29th.







Above: New Hope Children's Easter Activities

Announcements



Camp WinShape is June 13-17 at Lafayette Christian School. We need volunteers!

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at http://Camps.winshape.org/volunteer.



Camp Viola Summer Counselor or Lifeguard Job Opportunity

Camp Viola seeks to employ one to two Summer Counselors.

Camp Counselors are responsible for the overall supervision of campers and serve in ministry outreach by being a strong Christian role model, exposing campers to Jesus Christ.

Job requirements include; age of 18 years or older, the availability to work the entire camp season (June through early August), spending each night at Camp from Sunday through Thursday of each week, successful background check, and proven record of accomplishments working with children. A lifeguard certification is required (but applicants without a certification can become certified via assistance from Camp Viola). Interested parties should apply with resume, including references, to: phyllisboyett@gmail.com

Men's Luncheon

First Baptist Church on the Square LaGrange, Ga.

Thursday, May 26 at 12 noon

Speaker: Mike Pauley, Athletic Director, LaGrange High School

Please call the church office to make a reservation, 706-884-5631

FIRST CHOICE WOMEN'S CENTER INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A Enjoy a delicious meal catered by Venucci while learning about our ministry! Monday May 23, 2022 • 12:00-1:00pm Local Groundz Coffee Co. • 407 North Greenwood Street *Additional parking located across the street at Emory Clinic or LaGrange High School visitor parking RSVP by text or call to 706-668-7525 or email thompsonmp@bellsouth.net by May 13th "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves." - Proverbs 31:8

Children's Camp Rockridge

Sponsored by the Troup Baptist Association

Date: June 20-23, 2022

For: Boys & girls ages 8 years through rising 6th graders.

Place: Rockridge Baptist Assembly, 13200 Highway 100,

Franklin Georgia

Cost: \$200 per child for early registration. Registration and payment must be received by June 9.

> \$220 per child for registration after June 9. Last day to register and pay is June 16, 2022

Availability: Limited - First come, first served.

Scholarship Availability: Limited scholarships are available on a first come, first served basis. Applicant must provide references.

Registration: Applications should be entered online at www.troupbaptist.org. Payments can be made thru PayPal, credit/debit card, personal check or cash.

For more information: Contact Angela Maddux at the Association office (706) 884-1975 or email angela@troupbaptist.com.





Grace Baptist Church

3731 West Point Road, LaGrange

Thursday, May 12, 2022 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.

https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time

Association - Church Prayer List

For May 2022, please pray for following churches:

Week of May 1, 2022 - Highland Baptist Church Week of May 8, 2022 - Hillcrest Baptist Church Week of May 15, 2022 - Hillyer Baptist Church Week of May 22, 2022 - Hope Fellowship Hogansville

Week of May 29, 2022 - Lakeview Baptist Church

For June 2022, please pray for following churches:

Week of June 5, 2022 - Long Cane Baptist Church Week of June 12, 2022 - Mountville Baptist Church Week of June 19, 2022 - Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Week of June 26, 2022 - New Heaven Korean Baptist Church

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

MAY CALENDAR

- Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom
- 5 National Day of Prayer
- Mother's Day

- 9 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom 16 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship, 11:00 am In Person & Zoom 23 Pastors' Lunnch & Learn, 11:50 am At Local Groundz Coffee Co. 30 Memorial Day No Pastors' Prayer Fellowship

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.troupbaptist.org





Happy Birthday May



- Rev. Jimmy McMillian, Baptist Tabernacle
- 7 Rev. Chuck Anderson
- 16 Rev. Dwayne Perdue, Mountville
- Rev. Terry Prestridge, Mt. Pleasant 18
- 21 Mrs. Marianne McCollough
- 24 Rev. Anthony Hovey, Shoal Creek
- 25 Rev. Cleve Moore, Hilyer
- Rev. Randy Gilbert 26
- Rev. Jim Butler, Hillcrest

Happy Mother's Day

On The Lighter Side:

I'm sure most of you remember Animal Crackers that came in a little box. The first time the little boy had those he was so excited. He poured out the animal-shaped crackers all over the kitchen table. His mother came back in the room and asked him, "What are you doing?" He explained to her, "The box says you can't eat them if the seal is broken, so I'm looking for the seal."

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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> Mr. Daves Nichols, Treasurer Ms. Dottie Henson, Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Stephanie Williams, Clerk

Additional Photos



Celebrate Recovery hosted a classic car show on April 9 which brought a large crowd to view vehicles from the late 1920s to more current models. Trophies were given in several categories. The winner in the motorcycle category was a 9/11 Tribute Bike honoring the firemen who answered the call on that tragic day. The event raised over \$2,500 which will go toward helping people recover from addictions.

The group meets at First Baptist every Sunday at 3 pm.



FBC Hogansville Easter festivities included an egg hunt for the children on Wednesday evening, April 13.



Above & Below: Grace Baptist Church Children's Easter Activities





Lakeview Baptist Church

A surprise birthday party was held for Sidney Lanier on his 96th birthday on April 20. He is a World War II veteran and a faithful and long-term member of Lakeview.



Mountville Baptist Church enjoyed a beautiful homecoming service on Sunday, April 10 with lunch on the grounds!





New Hope Lagrange

Above: Greeters gave our gift bags and tickets at the community-wide Easter Egg Hunt.

Left: Children posing for Easter Photos at New Hope's Community-wide Easter Egg Hunt held on April 16th.