



## Thankfulness & Gratefulness BEGIN WITH CONTENTMENT

I love this time of year! Thanksgiving and Christmas are very special times to me. I also realize how important it is to have a grateful heart and be full of thanksgiving at all times. The scripture tells us to be thankful over and over, but we are often hard-headed.

I discovered something about me twenty years ago or so. I had trouble with “contentment.” That is, realizing that in every area of my life and ministry, that Jesus was ENOUGH. He was all that I needed and the world, as hard as it tried, would never equal the fullness that a close personal relationship with Jesus would provide. When I stopped holding on so tightly to this world and started finding my joy and fulfillment in Christ, a burden was lifted and a new joy filled my heart.

Many today struggle with contentment and the burdens of this world. While praying a few weeks ago about what to write this month, I knew it would relate to thankfulness, but I was impressed with this thought:

*“When we are discontent and ungrateful, we are more likely to trade God’s best for something of lesser value or fall for the enemy’s counterfeit.”*

Paul said in Philippians 4 that he had learned to be content with much or with little, in good times or in bad. That contentment, not an upcoming athletic event, allowed him to say, “I can do all things through Christ Who gives me strength.” (Phi 4:13) The lack of contentment will steal a thankful heart. It will cause us to overlook the many blessings that we have “in Christ.”

In the context of our current world situation, I realized that the more worldly progression we’ve made over the years past, the more discontent and unhappy people have become. While we’ve prospered greatly, we’ve

become more violent, disillusioned, unhappy, and angry. It’s amazing but not surprising because this world will never satisfy. We are all those things because we’ve TRADED God’s best for the world’s empty promises. I’m afraid

it’s even swept into our churches and brought us to the current state of THE church in 2022.

Let me share with you some of our terrible trades:

- We’ve traded time in the Word of God for electronic media, especially TV & “social media”
- We’ve traded Sunday worship of God for attending a meeting.

- We’ve traded “being” the church for “going” to a building.
- We’ve traded a personal relationship with Jesus for programs and presentations.
- We’ve traded SERVING for watching someone else work.
- We’ve traded DISCIPLESHIP for personal preference.
- We’ve traded grace for religious requirements and a yoke of slavery.

It’s time to reverse the trends of a natural downward progression. It’s time for each one of us to say, “Let it begin in me!” When I was a kid and we realized we had made a bad trade we would say, “Trade back!” It’s time for us to trade back and get committed.

In a time where most of the trends of the church are going in the wrong direction (i.e. participation, giving, new believers, & baptisms) I want to challenge you to make a better trade.

1. Spend more time in God’s Word!
2. BE the church, don’t just go to it!
3. Participate & Serve in your church!
4. Give generously to your church!
5. Share the Gospel with someone!

Thanksgiving begins with contentment and I can assure you, Christ is ENOUGH.

*Blessings,  
Bro Andy*



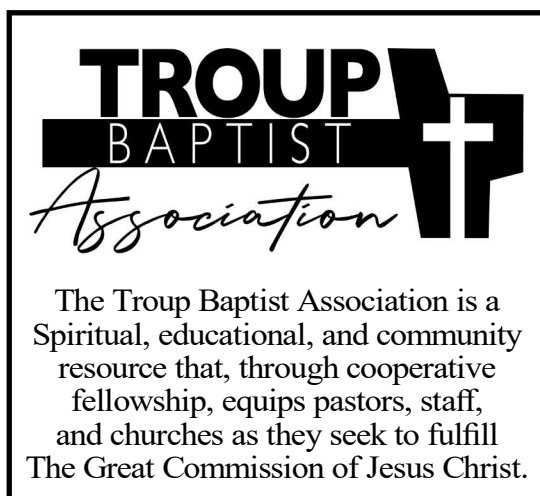


# Association News



Rev. Terry & Cookie Rainwater  
Moderator

Our new Moderator for the year is Rev. Terry Rainwater, Pastor of Highland Baptist Church in Hogansville since 2011. Having served in this role before, Bro. Terry brings experience, leadership, and wisdom, to this important position. Thank you, Terry, for your willingness to serve.



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.



Rev. Dwayne & Danna Perdue  
Vice-Moderator

Our new Vice-Moderator is Rev. Dwayne Perdue, Pastor of Mountville Baptist Church since 2004. Bro. Dwayne is a steady and wise leader and Kingdom servant. This will be his first time serving as Vice-Moderator and we are thankful for his leadership. Thank you, Bro. Dwayne.

## 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting was Monday, October 17, 2022, here at the Troup Baptist Building. We enjoyed a great meeting, an inspirational message, and a nice lunch together. Bro. Andy gave his report focusing on three major themes. He said our focus in the coming year must be UNITY in our churches and across the Association. Unity is not uniformity and God is glorified when we humbly work together in unity. Secondly, he shared that we must find our vision and motivation in a BIBLICAL MINDSET. As Baptists, we are people of the Bible. We are built, united, and sent by the Word of God. It must be the center of our strength and stability. Last, he shared that we must WORK TOGETHER. We are better together. We are stronger together. And, we can accomplish more together for the Kingdom of God here in Association, in Georgia, and across the world.

Dr. Paul Baxter shared a message of God's love and redemption from Galatians 3:26-4:7. "And because you are sons, God has sent for the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, 'Abba, Father!'" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."

In the way of business, we welcomed our newest church, True Believers Baptist Church of West Point under the leadership of Rev. Patrick Turner. In response to a recommendation from the Budget Team, we voted to move away from a fiscal year budget of October-September and to begin a January-December budget year beginning in 2023. Please continue to give generously and faithfully to the Lord's work in your church and our Association through your church.

## PASTOR'S FELLOWSHIP

### OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Nov 7 | Gal 5:1-15 Edmund Coffee

Nov 14 | **ROUNDTABLE** NEW YEAR

Nov 21 | Camp Viola Tour & Lunch

Nov 28 | Gal 6:1-10 Terry Rainwater

Dec 5 | Gal 6:11-18 Chris Reynolds (GBMB)

Dec 12 | **ROUNDTABLE** PREACHING?

Dec 19 | Pastors on a Christmas Mission

### Association - Church Prayer List

For **November 2022**, please pray for the following churches:

Week of November 6, 2022 - Western Heights Baptist Church  
Week of November 13, 2022 - Anointed By Faith  
Week of November 20, 2022 - Antioch Baptist / Hogansville  
Week of November 27, 2022 - Antioch Baptist / LaGrange

For **December 2022**, please pray for the following churches:

Week of December 4, 2022 - At The Cross  
Week of December 11, 2022 - Baptist Tabernacle Church  
Week of December 18, 2022 - Bethel Baptist Church  
Week of December 25, 2022 - Bethlehem Baptist Church

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

# Church News & Announcements

**Baptist Tabernacle** - added 4 new members to their church family. "Praise God! God is still at work, and He is still blessing our church." • The Food Closet served 410 individuals giving away 185 boxes of food, 154 meals for shut-ins, and 120 backpacks filled with weekend food for children at Clearview Elementary. The Food Closet is open every Thursday from 9 to 11 am. The Clothes Closet is also open on Thursday from 9 to 11 am.

- BT Prayer Warriors continue to meet on the Square in LaGrange at 10 am on Tuesdays. A time of devotion and prayer is held. Everyone is invited to attend.
- An Appreciation Dinner for Pastor Jimmy and Merle was given on October 16.
- Awanas had Pumpkin night on October 12 and they all dressed in orange. On October 26 they had a hayride.
- BTC will be hosting a Blood Drive on November 28 from 2-7 pm. If you can donate, please do so. Your donation may save someone's life.
- Friday, 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 turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 5 so you don't arrive late for Sunday Services, November 6.
- Hunters for Christ will be selling smoked Turkeys and Boston Butts again this year. They are \$40 each. Pick-up will be on November 23 from 5 to 7 pm. Call Brian Huckleberry at 706-616-2001 or Kim 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 celebrated on Sunday, October 16 along with Pastor Kenneth Cole's birthday which was October 20. He was presented with cards, gifts, and a money tree along with a BBQ sandwich luncheon and cake after the service. "We thank God that He sent Pastor Kenneth, Pam, and Kennedy to Dunson Baptist! They are such a blessing!"

- Mark your Calendars - Saturday, November 12, 5-7 pm for "Singing by Firelight". Weather permitting, this will be held outside in the parking lot with stage and fire pits. Jimmy McMillian (pastor of Baptist Tabernacle) and the band will set up and share some great old-time gospel music with us. You can park and stay in your car or sit around the fire pits. Bring your camping chair. Hot chocolate and coffee will be served. (Event will be held inside if the weather is inclement). You don't want to miss this blessing! Visitors from the community and other churches are welcome.

- Sunday, November 20, immediately following the morning service, they will have their traditional soup and chili Thanksgiving lunch. Please join them for the morning service and stay for lunch. They will also be delivering lunches to their shut-ins. They look forward to homemade soup and cornbread every year.



Above: Dunson's trip to the Celebrator's Conference in Pigeon Forge was quite a blessing to all who were able to attend. They had great fellowship and a lot of laughing. They hope more people can join them next year!

**FBC Hogansville** - October started on a happy note with the church-wide picnic held at the Hogansville Splash Pad on October 2. The weather was beautiful, the food was plentiful, the smiles were wide, and everyone had a great time. It is always a blessing to fellowship with our church family. • October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and they honored Pastor Greg for everything he does for their church folks and the community. • The Hummingbird Festival is a big celebration in town, and the Youth Department helped get everyone going by selling hot Krispy Kreme donuts first thing Saturday morning. This is a fundraiser to help them with their activities throughout the year.

- On Sunday night, October 16, the Home Town Revival began with Pastor Jimmy Evans bringing the message. The next three nights they heard inspiring words from Pastor Terry Rainwater, Pastor TJ Boyd, and Pastor Brian Hosmer. It is always a good time to be revived in work for the Lord, and all who attended received a blessing. "We are thankful for the dedicated men who preached and the talented people who shared special music with us each evening."
- The Prime Timers group visited the Biblical History Center in LaGrange for their outing this month. Carol Cain led the group on a fun, educational tour exploring the ancient world of Bible Times. Ten members participated in this activity and came away having gained a deeper respect and understanding.
- Trunk'n'Treat will be held in the downtown parking lot on October 29 between 2 and 4 pm. It is fun to see all the youngsters in their Halloween costumes, and they have a good time getting treats which include a message telling them of Jesus' love for them and giving information about church opportunities.
- Members are filling boxes for Operation Christmas Child to help spread the good news of Jesus. They will be due on November 13. Also coming up in November is our Community Thanksgiving meal on November 23. We will be serving a traditional meal to families in the community who might not be in a position to provide their own right now. All first responders who are on shift that day are also invited. We share in joy with Ashleigh Whitt as she rededicated her life and was baptized on October 2.



# Church News & Announcements



FBC Hogansville Youth sold Krispy Kreme Donuts during the Hummingbird Festival to fund their activities throughout the year.



FBC Hogansville held Home Town Revival with special music from Johnathan Henson from New Heights Baptist Church, Newnan

**FBC West Point** - The ladies of the First Baptist Church of West Point recently gave a shower honoring three newlyweds in the Suleman family. The Suleman's first came to West Point in 1997 as a family of eight Kurdish refugees from Iraq. Their youngest child, Payem was born here. For 25 years First Baptist has enjoyed a close relationship with the Suleman family, and all of those who live here have become U.S. citizens. The shower honored the three youngest Suleman brides Payem, Zaynab, and Hevi.



FBC West Point - hosted a bridal shower for the three youngest Suleman brides pictured above with other members of their family.

**First Baptist Church on the Square** - The Women's Ministry will be hosting Night of Joy on November 29, at 6:15 pm in the church's New Life Building at 117 Church Street. This women's Christmas dinner will feature speaker, Amy Hannon. She is the author of *Gather and Give: Sharing God's Heart through Everyday Hospitality*. Amy Hannon inspires others to embrace the simple hospitality of the bible that values connection more than perfection, people more than presentation. Amy shares scriptural principles and practical ideas to make everyday hospitality a natural, joy-filled part of your life! Tickets are \$20. To purchase tickets, go to [fbclagrange.org/women](http://fbclagrange.org/women).

- Glen Leathers has been hired as the Children's Minister at First Baptist Church on the Square. He served 13 years as the Minister to Children at First Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Prior to that, he served as preschool and children's minister at Calvary Baptist Temple in Savannah, Ga., and Hilddale Baptist Church in Clarksville, Tenn., for a total of twenty-plus years of ministry experience to children. An Auburn graduate, he earned a Master of Arts degree in Christian Education with a childhood education concentration from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also completed certification with the Ryan Franks' KidMin Academy and has served as a trainer for the Montgomery Baptist Association's VBS clinics, a trainer for the Alabama State Board of Missions for Bible Drills, and as a member and past president of the Alabama Preschool and Children's Ministry Organization. Glen has been married to Lisa, his ministry partner, for 16 years. They have two sons, Jack and Mason. The family enjoys hiking, board games, Auburn football, and all things Disney.



Above: Glen Leathers (L) and Family

**Grace** - In October, 202 families were served with boxes of Free Food. These are available to anyone who wants one every third Saturday. The drive-through starts at 10:00 am.

- The Clothes Closet helps anyone in need.
- Pastor Appreciation for our wonderful Pastor Donnie Benefield was held after the evening service on October 20 with sweets for our sweet Pastor!!

Sunday School begins at 9:45 am, Morning Worship at 10:45 am, and Evening Service at 6 pm.

- Wednesday service begins at 7:00 pm. Children's Church is PreK-3rd grades and Teen Ministry is 6th - 12th grades.

- 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 the YouTube page.

- Please visit the webpage <http://www.gbclagrange.com/> for updates and links to their Facebook and YouTube sites.





# Church News & Announcements

**Highland** - had a great time of food and fellowship on Pastor Appreciation Day. Deacon Steve Ott presented Pastor Terry with a gift from the church. They also enjoyed the beautiful special music by Pastor Terry and Cookie during Morning Worship Service. "We are so blessed to have them serving as our Pastor family." • The WMU ladies collected totes/purses filled with toiletry items and donated them to the Harmony House as one of their many projects.

- The annual Trunk 'n Treat is on October 31 at 6 pm. This is always a fun time with a large crowd of children and adults from the community in attendance. Candy and Bible Tracts will be handed out from cars lining their parking lot.
- Highland will join other churches in our community for a Community-Wide Thanksgiving Service at Hogansville Church of God on Sunday, November 20 at 5:00 pm. The guest preacher will be announced later. Everyone is invited!
- The annual Hanging of the Green service will be held on Sunday, December 4, at 11:00 am. "Everyone is invited to join us as we decorate the sanctuary with Christmas colors and sing and celebrate the birth of our Savior!"
- The choir will present the cantata "Christ Was Born For This" on Sunday, December 18, at 11:00 am. "Please join us for this special service."
- The annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service will be Saturday, December 24, at 5:00 pm. "This is a beautiful service and we invite everyone to join us."
- On Christmas Day, the Morning Worship Service will begin at 10:00 am and there will be no Sunday School.



Above: Highland Pastor Terry Rainwater (L) receives a Pastor Appreciation gift from Deacon Steve Ott (R).



Above: Highland WMU collected totes & toiletries for the women of Harmony House.

**Lakeview** - Homecoming was October 9 with Pastor Kenneth Cole of Dunson Baptist Church providing special music and dynamic preaching which was enjoyed by all. A bountiful fellowship meal followed the services.

- Several members attended the Troup Baptist Association annual meeting on October 17.
- Men met at Jim Bob's on October 21 for a time of fellowship and planning. They planned a project of helping a church member with some home repairs. The Brotherhood provided new American flags for the church.
- Pastor Lamar Truitt and his wife Carol gave the gift of a home-cooked meal to church members attending services on Wednesday, October 26.

**New Hope (LaGrange)** - The Sisters of Hope had a wonderful group of ladies for the breakfast meeting on Saturday, Oct 1 in the Fellowship Hall. There were many new faces as we shared a meal, played a game introducing each other, and made plans for future missions. Lori McClung will be leading a short Bible lesson at each meeting titled "Praying In Faith." Please see Lori to get your study book. All women are invited to the next breakfast meeting on Saturday, November 5 at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. • "We are so thankful for Pastor Steven!" On Sunday, October 9, they presented him and Megan a monetary gift to express their love and appreciation for their ministry to the New Hope congregation. "We all love you Pastor and Megan and pray daily for God to bless and guide you as you lead us in worship and sharing the gospel." • On Sunday, October 30, Chase Wilson was ordained as a minister of the gospel. Please be in prayer for him and Hanna as they prepare to enter a new phase in their lives. "We pray for God's blessings on them as they work together to share the gospel of Christ." A meal was held in his honor following the service. • The Fall Festival was held on Monday, October 31 from 5:00 until 8:00 pm. There were many activities for children. • The Fellowship Dinner will be Sunday, November 13 at 6:00 pm. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish or a dessert to share. The meat and drinks will be provided. There will also be a bonfire so you might want to bring your lawn chair to sit around the fire. If it rains, the dinner will be postponed till the following Sunday, November 20. • "We thank and give all praise to God for the two new air conditioners installed in the Fellowship Hall. God is good!" New Hope wishes everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. "Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Sunday, November 6."

## New Hope - Sisters of Hope



# Church News & Announcements

**Roper Heights** - The Little Lambs of Roper Heights went to Callaway Gardens and enjoyed all of the fall activities on Saturday, October 9. The kids have been very busy and so have the Son-shiners. They went to the Three Little Pigs in Pine Mountain. "Come to Roper Heights and see what's going on!"



Roper Heights - Children and Youth enjoyed the Fall Festival at Callaway Gardens on October 9.

**Wehadkee** - The Wehadkee Church Family would like to say, thank you to our Pastor for his commitment and service to The Lord. "We appreciate you Pastor Nick Pilgrim!" The 5th Sunday morning service was led by Pastor S.T. Janney with fellowship and food following the service.

#### Birthdays:

October 12: Debbie Cliett

October 12: Wanda Treadwell

#### Anniversaries:

October 11 Dan and Suellen Shae

**SURVIVING  
THE  
HOLIDAYS**  
GRIEF SHARE®

**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

**December 3, 9:00 - 11:00 AM**  
**Franklin Road Baptist Church**  
1424 New Franklin Rd., LaGrange

Call 706-882-3482 or visit [frbclagrange.org/grief](http://frbclagrange.org/grief)

## Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child is a Samaritan's Purse project where churches, businesses, and individuals pack shoeboxes with useful items and toys so that they can be sent somewhere around the world to children in need. Each child that receives a box will also learn about the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

We are thankful for all of you who have and continue to faithfully pray and pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

If you have not yet been a part of this exciting and impactful ministry but would like to join in this global outreach effort, please contact Linda Wood by phone at 706-302-9654.

National Collection Week is November 14-21. This year Troup County has two drop off locations. The dates and times are listed below.

We would be happy to have you join us in volunteering at one of these drop off locations. Please contact Barbara Nivens at 706-302-9075 or Cathi Martin at 706-957-3075 for further information.

#### Two Drop Off Locations:

##### **First Baptist on the Square**

117 Church St. (New Life Bldg)  
LaGrange, GA

Nov 14: 8:30 - 10:00 AM & 5:00 - 6:00 PM  
Nov 15, 16, 17: 9:00 - 11:00 AM  
Nov 18: 9:00 - 11:00 AM & 5:00 - 6:00 PM  
Nov 19: 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
Nov 20: 12:30 - 2:30 PM  
Nov 21: 8:30 - 10:30 AM

##### **Western Heights Baptist Church**

2382 West Point Road  
LaGrange, GA

Nov 14, 15: 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Nov 16: 4:30 - 6:30 PM  
Nov 17, 18: 5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Nov 19: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Nov 20: 12:30 - 2:30 PM  
Nov 21: 8:30 - 10:30 AM



# Announcements



**First Baptist Church on the Square**

*Night of Joy*

Women's Christmas Dinner  
November 29, 2022  
New Life Building

*Join Us*  
for a time of  
hospitality encouragement  
with Amy Hannon

Tickets \$20  
fbclagrange.org  
or SCAN

*Gather & Give*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Nov 2	Rev. Jerome Hicks	Dec 1	Rev. Michael Stiggers
Nov 15	Rev. Ray Tarwater	Dec 6	Rev. Jamie Kelley
Nov 15	Pastor Terry Gray	Dec 9	Rev. Doug Bingham
Nov 16	Rev. Steve Sexton	Dec 20	Rev. Andy Buchanan
Nov 22	Rev. Steve Johnson	Dec 22	Rev. Bill Bryant
		Dec 31	Rev. Wesley Boatman

**CFC23**

## Church Financial Conferences 2023

Early Bird Tickets of \$15 include admissions, a conference packet, dinner, and more.  
Special pricing ends November 29

Register at [gbfoundation.org/CFC23](http://gbfoundation.org/CFC23)

Dates & Locations include

- March 21 5:00 - 8:15 pm Columbus  
Calvary Baptist Church
- March 30 5:00 - 8:15 pm Jonesboro  
First Baptist Church

Breakout Sessions:

- Creative Tools for Fueling Your Mission
- Reporting Revenue Above Reproach
- Budgeting to Build the Kingdom
- Don't Let Your Pastor Labor in Vain



Camp Rockridge Director

Now taking resumes for Director. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please send resume to [andy@troubaptist.org](mailto:andy@troubaptist.org).

**Nov. 19th 5:30-8PM**



**FOOD Truck**

**MUSIC FESTIVAL** (WITH A CAUSE)

LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS | SEC FOOTBALL | PRIZES | BOUNCY HOUSE GAMES | SILENT AUCTION | FUN AND GAMES FOR FAMILIES

@ 215 TEAVER ROAD LAGRANGE, GA

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE CALUMET CENTER, A NON-PROFIT CENTER IN LAGRANGE THAT EMPOWERS WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO THRIVE AFTER DEALING WITH TRAUMA AND ADDICTION. IT WORKS TO PROVIDE A PLACE FOR RECOVERY AND RESTORATION FOR FAMILIES.

## On The Lighter Side

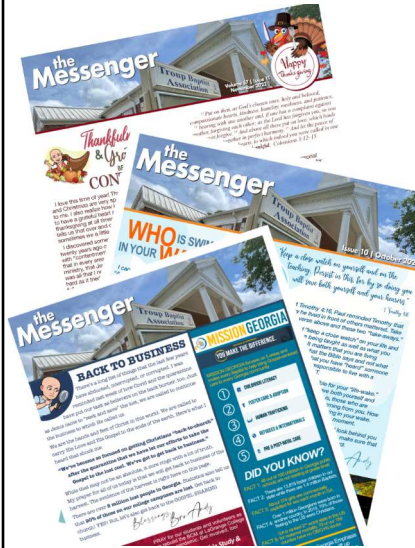
Esther- What kind of animal did God kill to put clothes on Adam and Eve?

Me- I don't think the Bible tells us.

Esther- Yes it does. I saw a picture in the old testament and it was a camel because they were wearing camel-flage.



# THE MESSENGER IN COLOR



We've received so many kind comments on The Messenger in Color. Thank you! We want to move forward with all of your pictures and stories in color as well. If you would like to help us get there, please consider a special gift to make it possible.

If you are looking to make an End-of-the-Year donation, please consider the TBA and our efforts to support the churches in serving and reaching our counties with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thanks!

## MISSION GEORGIA

11.13.22  
**STAND SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 13TH**

Join the movement of Christians making Kingdom impact in the foster care world.

### What is Stand Sunday?

Stand Sunday is a national initiative of the Christian Alliance for Orphans inviting churches to raise awareness of the needs of vulnerable children and families in their community who are touched by the foster care system.

Mission Georgia is providing a step-by-step guide for your church to join the movement of Christians making Kingdom impact in the foster care world.

<https://missiongeorgia.org/standsunday/>

Follow the link for resources to celebrate as a church or as an individual or family.

## Advent Devotionals Online

Follow the link or QR Code to subscribe to Bro. Andy's Advent Devotionals.

Beginning Sunday, November 27, 2022 you will receive an encouraging devotional that will guide you as you celebrate the coming of Jesus this Advent Season.



<https://troubaptist.org/advent>

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LaGrange, Georgia 30241

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



706-884-1975 | [troubaptist.org](http://troubaptist.org)

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