



the Messenger

TROUP
BAPTIST
Association

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March 2023

This is the time of year when we are thinking about growth. Some are planting, others are getting ready to plant, and still others are trying to figure out what and when they should plant. I'm not a gardener but I love working in the yard and so I'm thinking about my lawn (and my moss) beginning to grow.

I'm also thinking about spiritual growth. This is such a special season of the year. We've come through another wonderful Christmas celebration and now we've moved into the days leading up to Easter. Easter is "THE GREATEST DAY IN HISTORY" as the song lyrics rightly say.

Healthy, living things grow! It sounds so simple but it's true. I've only loved one cat in my life. It was a little kitten we named

Jerry because he was gray like the cat from Tom and Jerry (not after my friend Jerry Parkerson). We had him for well over a year and he was still a cute little kitten, not a grown-up cat with

an attitude problem. Anyway, Jerry stayed little because he had a tape worm, not because of my love for him. Dad and mom knew something was wrong because he wasn't growing. It's the same with our physical health AND our spiritual health. We shouldn't be at the same place today that we were one, two, or five years ago.

So, how do we best evaluate our Spiritual Growth?

Let me give you a few questions to ask about your life:

"Is the Gospel the center of my life?"

The Gospel is the GOOD NEWS of JESUS CHRIST. That He lived obediently, died sacrificially, and was raised to life is the core of who we are! By "center of my life," I mean that everything we do is being evaluated by its Christlikeness. If I'm growing spiritually I'm becoming more like Jesus each and every day. I'm adjusting my will and ways to the Holy Spirit's direction. In a phrase, "I'm being sanctified."

"Is the fruit of the Spirit growing in me?"

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Take a look. Are these things evident in your life?

If you have a green thumb when it comes to gardening, then this should be an easy comparison for you. If your tomatoes aren't growing, something is wrong. We know the seed is good. The Holy Spirit is a fine gardener. What's left? The soil (you)...check the soil. Before the weeds begin to grow in your life this spring, make sure your habits and daily activities are such that the Spirit has the freedom to do the work in you so that the fruit can grow.

Spiritual GROWTH

"Am I using my spiritual gifts to serve the church?"

Serving. It's the next level of spiritual growth. There's no age limit at either end. We are the body of Christ, all of us. The Church, our church's health is partly up to each of us. That is, we each have a role to play in helping our church be a healthy body. What if each member of your church took it upon themselves to serve wholeheartedly with the power given to them for just that purpose?

There are many more questions that we could ask. The important thing is that never stop asking.

"Heavenly Father, work the soil of my heart so that I might grow in the image of Your Son, Jesus Christ."

Bro Andy

Share with me how you evaluate your spiritual growth? andy@troubaptist.org

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"If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose." - Philippians 2:1-2

371million in North America | 350 languages |
281million without the hope of the gospel |
PRAY | GO

NAMB

WMU®

MINISTRY NEWS

It's been an exciting year! March 1 marks the beginning of my ministry here at the TBA and I am so blessed and excited to serve the Troup Baptists. Thank you for supporting all that we're doing and all that's happening around our TBA. I'm here to serve, equip, and encourage you so please let me know if there's a way you need help.

This month has been another exciting month as I continue to work closely with the Disaster Relief team in our community to assist families still in need. If you would like to help, you can still donate to the TBA as we help with the many needs that pop-up.

This month started off for me in Forsyth at the Georgia Baptist AMS retreat. Wow! Bill Eliff led us on a 2-day journey regarding Prayer and Spiritual Awakening. I was encouraged, convicted, and inspired to pray for God to awaken His people. It was a powerful time.

I attended the Empowerment 3D breakfast at New Hope with Pastor Steven Cheek for a great ministry going on right here in LaGrange to guide young men in the way they should go. Then, Kim and I did our part at the Good Sam Ministry packing that afternoon.

Kim and I attended services at Roper Heights (Pastor Eric Rice), Glenn (Pastor Jamie Kelley)



and Second Baptist (Pastor Robert Burnett). I spoke at the Lakeview (Pastor Lamar Truitt) Valentine's Banquet on the



Differences Between Men and Women. I was also blessed to be a part of the Circles of Troup County graduation ceremony here at our building. The graduates shared powerful testimonies of how they found help and hope through this ministry. Sherri Brown is the Director of Circles of Troup. All of these were wonderful times of worship and fellowship.

Finally, I'm continuing to be blessed as I serve with our BCM team at LaGrange College. God is really moving in BCM with powerful Bible studies and a stirring to reach the campus with the Gospel. I was also privileged to speak at the Lafayette Christian School chapel on February 23 and will be speaking there again in March and April.



Thank you again for your support as we carry the good news of Jesus wherever we go in and around our community.



On The Lighter Side



Our fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help.

I asked our sixth-grader, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to."

Spotting a teaching moment, my husband asked Noah, "What would Jesus do?"

Noah answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes."

Association - Church Prayer List

For **March 2023**, please pray for the following churches:

Week of March 5, 2023 - First Baptist Church, Hogansville
Week of March 12, 2023 - First Baptist Church, West Point
Week of March 19, 2023 - First Baptist Church on the Square
Week of March 26, 2023 - First Hispanic Baptist Church

For **April 2023**, please pray for the following churches:

Week of April 2, 2023 - Flat Shoals Salem Rd Baptist Church
Week of April 9, 2023 - Fountain Baptist Church
Week of April 16, 2023 - Franklin Road Baptist Church
Week of April 23, 2023 - Glenn Baptist Church
Week of April 30, 2023 - Grace Baptist Church

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

BCM at LaGrange College meets each Monday at 8pm in Turner Hall. Pray for God to continue to move at LC!

Soul Food Cafe is each Tuesday at 12noon.

Call us at the TBA to sign-up your church or group to provide this lunch for about 25-30 college students. They love "home-cooked" meals and fellowship with all of you!



Free Christian books are available for your church library.

For more information call Angela at Troup Baptist Association 706-884-1975



Church News & Announcements

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - added eight new members to their church family and three people were baptized last month. "Praise God! God is at work at BTC!"

- During the month of February, the Food Closet served 374 individuals giving away 171 boxes of food and 140 meals. The Food Closet and Clothes Closet are open every Thursday morning from 9 until 11.
- The Prayer Warriors meet every Tuesday at 10 am on the square for prayer and devotion. Everyone is invited to attend.
- On February 5, there was a Valentine's Celebration for the widows and widowers. Those attending enjoyed fun, food, and fellowship together.
- The Blood Drive will be on March 6 from 2-7 pm in the JC McMillian Life Center of Baptist Tabernacle Church. If you are able to donate, please come and do so. Your donation could save someone's life.
- BTC Student Ministry meets every Wednesday at 7 pm.
- Awana's is on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 pm. March 8 will be Service Night, March 22 will be Missionary Night, and Winners Night will be held on March 29.
- Daylight Savings Time returns on Sunday, March 12. Remember to spring forward one hour on your clocks before going to bed on Saturday, March 11, so you won't be late for services on Sunday. Remember, God is always on time. Baptist Tabernacle wishes everyone a happy and safe spring. Remember to smile, God loves you.

Creekside - The Sisterhood met on February 13 and was hosted by Janet Geter and Mary Abbott. The menu was Italian, and after dinner everyone enjoyed an indoor scavenger hunt. The ladies also collected funds to purchase new wreaths for the church's front doors.

- A group from Creekside enjoyed dinner and fellowship at Rogers BBQ in Hogansville.
- Brotherhood met on February 19 with Rev. Jerry Scarborough as speaker.
- Creekside welcomed a new member, Ms. Mary Smith! "We are proud to have her with us!"

March announcements:

- Sisterhood will meet on March 13 at 6:00 pm.
 - Brotherhood will meet on March 18 at 8:00 am.
 - Revival services will be March 19 - 24 as follows:
 - Sunday, March 19 at 11 am and 6 pm
Rev Charlie Crouch will be bringing the Word.
 - Monday, March 20 thru Wed March 22 at 7 pm
Rev Jonathan Hannah will be preaching.
 - Thursday, March 23 thru Friday, March 24 at 7 pm
Rev Stephen McClain will be bringing the message.
- There will be special singing every night. Pray that God will move in a mighty way during this revival.
- On April 2 at 6:00 pm, Creekside will host a singing with "The Littles."

Dunson - has renewed emphasis on Wednesday night children and youth programs. The youth attended day camp at Pastor Kenneth's camp in Pine Mountain on February 25.

- Everyone had a great time at the Annual Valentine's Banquet which had several churches participate.
- Dunson continues to grow its Choir under the leadership of Steve Vickery. Pastor Kenneth, his wife Pam, along with Steve Vickery, and his wife Wanda attended the Georgia Baptist Pastors and Wives retreat at Jekyll Island. The Love at Dunson continues to grow, and we invite you to come and experience the presence of the Holy Spirit in this place!

FBC Hogansville - A group of teens from the Youth Department attended Winter Jam 2023 in Atlanta on February 4. They thoroughly enjoyed the Christian entertainment, and it was a special time for fellowship, good food, and worship. They were accompanied by Youth Director Monica Johnson and Heather Gresham. The smiles say it all.

- During the month of January the ladies' group, Ladies Under Construction collected items for the Wellstar West Georgia Hospice. They delivered them along with notes of encouragement for the families who were there visiting. Many of our ladies have had family members there and wanted to give back to those going through such a difficult time!
- We are saddened by the passing of one of our members, Mr. Jimmy Ledford.



FBC Hogansville Youth attended Winter Jam 2023 in Atlanta.

CREEKSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
1589 Stovall Rd. LaGrange, GA

REVIVAL

Sunday 3/19 - 11 am & 6 pm
Rev. Charlie Crouch

Monday 3/20 - Wednesday 3/22 @ 7 pm
Rev. Jonathan Hannah

Thurs 3/23 - Fri 3/24 @ 7 pm
Rev. Stephen McClain

SPECIAL SINGING NIGHTLY

Bethel Baptist Church

7855 West Point Rd, West Point, GA

will host a singing on March 11 at 6:00 PM
featuring **Molded Clay** from South Carolina.

Church News & Announcements

FBC Hogansville - (continued)



FBC Hogansville Ladies Under Construction donated cards and snacks to families of West Georgia Hospice patients.

First Baptist on the Square - The FBC Daycare is looking for a Pre-K Teacher. For more information, scan the QR code or visit <https://fbclagrange.org/jobs/>.



Grace - served 221 people with boxes of free food in February. This is available to anyone who wants it every third Saturday. The drive-through starts at 10:00 am.

- The Clothes Closet helps anyone in need.
- The Children and Teens went to Reds2 on a Monday night to skate.
- The Children made valentines and gave them to the residents at Florence Hand Home and also sang to them.
- Homecoming will be Sunday, March 26 at 10:30 am with a covered dish meal after the service.
- The Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 1 at 2:30 pm.



Grace: Children sang for Residents of Florence Hand Home



Grace: Children & Teens went skating at Reds2

- Grace invites everyone who does not have a church home to join them for Sunday School at 9:45 am, morning worship at 10:45 am, evening service at 6:00 pm and Wednesday service at 7:00 pm. Children's Church is for PreK-5th grades and Teen Ministry is for 6th - 12th grades. Van Pick-up is available by request. Children and Youth are served a meal every Wednesday. Services are streamed live on their Facebook page and available on their YouTube page.
- 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.

Highland - Highland WMU ladies made valentine's cards for some shut-ins during their February meeting. They are also busy collecting items for Project Joy Distribution at God's Bread Basket next December. They collected individually wrapped bars of soap in February and are collecting deodorant in March. They are also collecting individual servings of Vienna sausage, macaroni and cheese, chips, pop tarts, etc. to be delivered to Wellstar West Georgia Hospice. In addition to Project Joy, they are also collecting an offering for North American Missions in March.

• Highland's choir, under the direction of Ginger Woodruff, continues to work on the cantata, "Amazing Grace", to be performed during the 11:00 am worship service on Easter morning. This is a beautiful cantata with solos from several of the choir members. The Easter Sunrise Service will be held at 7:00 am on April 9. Weather permitting, it will be outside near the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited.

Lakeview - Coffee and refreshments continue to be available on Sundays from 9:30 to 10:00 am.

- A Valentine's Day banquet, sponsored by the Lakeview Brotherhood, was held on February 15 with delicious steaks and all the trimmings. Association Mission Strategist Andy Buchanan was the guest speaker and his presentation was much enjoyed.
- WMU ladies met at Nutwood Plantation Restaurant on February 18 for great food and good fellowship.
- A Wednesday night meal was held on February 22 with Carolyn Jones and Jean Shirley as the hostesses.
- Lakeview is participating in the Annie Armstrong Easter offering.
- Congratulations to David Truitt, grandson of Pastor Lamar and Mrs. Carol Truitt, on his early high school graduation.
- On April 26 at 5:00 pm a hamburger and hot dog meal will be enjoyed and Tommy Whitworth will be the guest speaker.
- Lakeview Baptist Church is seeking a piano player for Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. This is a paid position. If interested, please contact Judy King at 706-333-2197 or email Judy at lilose2567@gmail.com.



Above: Lakeview WMU enjoyed lunch together at Nutwood Plantation Restaurant on February 18.



Above: Lakeview's Valentine's Banquet with Mission Strategist Andy Buchanan speaking to the group.

Church News & Announcements

Mountville (MBC) - is so excited to welcome seven new members - all by salvation/baptism!! God is moving in a mighty way! ♥

- The kids/youth at MBC worked hard during the month of January/February to create Valentine's cards and bookmarks for all the residents/staff at Pruitt Health Care in Greenville. A goody basket full of candy and all the cards and bookmarks was delivered to them on Monday, February 13. The kids learned a lot about sharing the LOVE of Jesus with others!
- The Team Kids Group (2nd-5th grade) enjoyed a great outing at Sweetland for some ice skating on Saturday, January 28!
- Mountville Mpact attended Winter JAM on Saturday, February 4. They enjoyed a great day of music and worship!!
- MBC was honored to have Colin Elliott and Paul Silcock from Ireland visit on Wednesday, February 15. They led a wonderful night of worship, and the Holy Spirit was truly present.
- Mountville will celebrate HOMECOMING on Sunday, April 23. Randy & Sherri Miller will be bringing special music starting at 10 am and Bro. Danny Jeter will be bringing the morning message at 11 am. A covered dish lunch will be enjoyed on the grounds after the service!



Mountville - Colin Elliott and Paul Silcock from Ireland led worship on Wednesday, February 15.



Mountville Kids enjoyed Ice Skating at Sweetland.



Mountville Mpact attended Winter Jam on February 4.

New Hope (LaGrange) - On Wednesday, February 22, the youth began a new ministry called "Ignite." It will meet on the last Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 29. All youth are invited to come fellowship, eat, and enjoy time together learning how to grow in their faith in Christ.

New Hope (continued) - Judy King was the guest speaker at the Sisters of Hope meeting on Saturday, February 11.

Judy gave information on what WMU is doing in the Troup Association. She also gave suggestions for ministry in our area. All ladies are needed to help in our ministry projects.

• What an exciting time of fellowship, encouragement, and fun the men and boys had at the Empowerment breakfast at New Hope on Saturday, February 4. It was a great experience for the volunteers who cooked the breakfast and also had a fun time. "Thank you Pastor Steven, for involving New Hope in helping with this uplifting and worthy ministry in our community."

• Pastor Steven continues his series on "ALL IN" each Sunday morning at 11 am. These are powerful messages on how to be a healthy growing church and the core values that are needed to drive and shape us to minister in the name of Jesus. If you do not have a church home you are invited to "come check us out." • Daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 12. • An Easter Egg Outreach Event will be Saturday, April 8 from 9:30 to 11:00 am. All are invited to join us for fun activities, food, and an Easter egg hunt.

• Please join us at 10 am for a time of fellowship followed by worship at 11 am on Easter Sunday, May 9. Life Groups will not meet on Easter Sunday.

• Plans are being made for another Secret Church on Friday, April 21. Mark your calendar now for this special event.



New Hope LaGrange hosted an Empowerment Breakfast for the boys of Clearview Elementary School.

Wehadkee - HAPPY SPRING

For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing of birds has come, and the voice of the turtles is heard in our land. Solomon 2: 11-12



Happy Birthday:

March 11	Brenda Jennings
March 16	Larry Jennings
March 25	Willie (Bubba) Heard
March 25	Janet Pilgrim
March 27	Brittney Fields



Happy Anniversary:

March 2	Jimmy and Wanda Treadwell
March 7	Haywood and Debbie Cliett



APRIL 9 | 8:45 & 11 A.M.

CELEBRATE Easter

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Happy Birthday

MARCH

Mar 6 Rev. Adam Camp
Mar 9 Rev. Benjie Dukes
Mar 11 Rev. Don Ellison
Mar 13 Rev. Neil Stich
Mar 16 Rev. James Yu
Mar 20 Rev. Randy Warren
Mar 21 Rev. Eric Rice
Mar 22 Dr. Tom Tucker

APRIL

April 3 Rev. Greg Morris
April 6 Rev. Paul Blair
April 6 Rev. Clay Snyder
April 9 Rev. Aaron McCollough
April 9 Rev. Donnie Benefield
April 11 Rev. Nick Pilgrim
April 16 Rev. Tommy Gilbert
April 23 Rev. Randall Foxworth
April 27 Rev. Steve Vickery
April 28 Rev. Hugo Oropeza
April 29 Rev. Frank Sledge

WELCOME

**Chris & Stephanie Hendricks
Hunter & Leigha**



Pastor Chris accepted the call to Bethel Baptist in West Point on Sunday, Feb 26.

We're looking forward to seeing what God will do in the days ahead at Bethel.

Troup Baptist Association
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LaGrange, Georgia 30241

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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