

Appalachee Baptist Association
"A Family of Churches"

The Vision

"Where there is no vision, the people will perish" ~ Proverbs 29:18

Vol 12 – No. 1

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On Mission Celebration Nears!

After months of planning, team meetings, e-mails, phone calls, and a plethora of minute but important details, the On mission Celebration is almost here! Churches have been enlisted, missionaries have been contacted and are committed, and assignments have been made on the part of the missionaries and church fellowships. Excitement is mounting as the days draw near for a celebration that has not been observed in the Appalachee Baptist Association for almost 17 years. Our celebration will be a little different than most. We felt it wise to include a special emphasis on children and a channel of mission ministry for youth. Rev. Tim Burt, children's minister of Faith Baptist Monroe joined our team on behalf of children. Rev. Mike Ricks, associate for youth at Briarwood Church is working with youth. They are doing ministry before the mission fair in several places in our association. Other team members are Nedra Jackson, Associational WMU Director who heads up spiritual preparation; Ramona and Ed Lord who are in charge of special events; Howard Colquett, OMC finances; Rev. James Bolton, transportation; and Development Director. Rev. Les Roberts, served as the team coordinator. **Here is** Missionaries will be picked up at the or Saturday Morning. They will check Monroe in time to unpack and gather their Bethlehem and set up for the **Missions** the fair children will get to meet the and get their "passports" stamped. snacks from international recipes. There activities. At around 5 P.M. the youth will gather in the "Hanger" at FBC Bethlehem for pizza, videos, games and music provided by the Faith Baptist Praise Band, and Bethlehem Drama Team. They will hear a missionary speaker and report on ministry assignments carried out prior to the fair. Not to be outdone, the adults and children will go to the sanctuary where they will participate in a flag processional, music, the introduction of our missionaries and hear a missions challenge by one of the veteran missionaries. **Every church in our association is invited to the mission's fair, even those who are not participating in the Sunday through Wednesday events!**



Rev. Charles Jones, Missions a retired home missionary has **what the week will look like:** Atlanta airport on Friday Evening into the Country Hearth Inn in display materials, travel to FBC **Fair** which begins at 4:30 P.M. At missionaries, experience displays Everyone will be able to enjoy will be some games and other

But the best part is yet to come. Participating churches will hear missionaries speak about their work on Sunday Morning, Sunday Evening and each evening Monday through Wednesday. The churches will be able to put a face on the missions giving through the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention. They will be challenged to personally become involved in mission projects. Perhaps some member, possibly a young person, will make a commitment to missions or another God-called ministry role.

Several special events are planned for the week. Rather than having the missionaries cramped up in a motel in a strange town through the day we have made some terrific plans and **including church staff ministers and wives.** **On Monday** busses and vans will pick up the missionaries, pastors and wives for a trip to Freeman Creek Baptist Church where the Association was founded in 1835 and where Lottie Moon, missionary to China once attended services. Then we will travel to Walker Baptist Church for senior's luncheon, listen to the Senior's Choir from Mars Hill Baptist and hear missionaries' testimonies. **On Tuesday** missionaries, church staff and their wives will be the guest of First Baptist Loganville. The busses and vans will leave from the motel at

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WHAT IS A SOUTHERN BAPTIST?

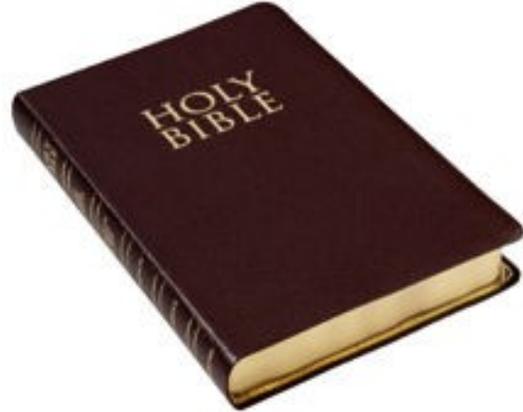
J. B. Graham

I have been asked this question many times and depending on the background and understanding of the inquirer formed my answer in different ways. This time the question came from one of several vendors who call on me to represent his services to the association. Remembering my “New York days” I spared him the cultural or regional answer. In our conversation, I discovered that he wanted to know what a Baptist association was. We talked some of voluntary connectionalism, autonomy, authority, congregational rule—all buzz words we Baptists are familiar with. I tried to explain that we were a family of churches with marked differences and personalities but with one common glue that binds or connects us—the glue of evangelism and missions. I was prepared then to explain evangelism and missions when he interrupted me saying that he sure did like the Baptist church where he lived although he was a Methodist. He liked it because they had a great “Upward Basketball” Program where his son played basketball. And then he said, “and we might just join that church.”

How would you answer the question, “What is a Southern Baptist?” Would it be in terms of doctrine, polity, structure, history, regional culture—the list could go on. Hopefully, somewhere in your response the idea of evangelism and missions would run deep in the description. See Matthew 25: 31-46 and Matthew 28:18-20.

ANNUAL MEETING SETS THEME: “THE WORD”

The theme for this year’s annual meeting has been developed around the Word of



God. Three of our own association’s church pastors have been selected to do brief theme interpretations. Vice Moderator Jimmy Wilson will speak on *Love the Word* in the afternoon session. Dr. Joe Davis, Pastor of Summit Baptist Church will speak on *Learn the Word* near the beginning of the evening session. Center Hill Monroe’s Pastor Marion Prather will conclude the messages as he speaks on *Live the Word*.

Pastor Buster Brown and the Annie Mary Congregation are looking forward to our visit. They are prepared to host the evening meal between sessions. It has been our custom to receive an offering to offset this expense. Get ready for great food and fellowship!

Golf Tournaments

Annie Mary, Oct 9, Bear Creek-
770-464-0303
River Hills, Oct 24, Providence
770-601-5405
Walton PRC Oct 30, Bear Creek,
770-605-0385



In addition to the usual business of the annual meeting our messengers and visitors will get to hear “Georgia” a southern gospel quartet in concert. This alone will be worth the trip!

Don’t forget to make your plans now for Tuesday, October 13th for the 174th Annual session of the Appalachian Baptist Association! The afternoon session begins at 4 p.m. and the evening session is at 7 p.m.

**174th ANNUAL MEETING
APPALACHEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009
ANNIE MARY BAPTIST CHURCH
THE WORD OF GOD
Afternoon Session**

3:00 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting
3:30 P.M. Registration of Messengers and Visitors
3:50 P.M. Pre-Session Music
4:00 P.M. Instrumental Prelude

Call to Order	Eric Buffington
Welcome and Prayer	Buster Brown
Seating of Messengers	Don Malcom
Recognition of New Ministers	J.B. Graham
Spouses and Staff	
Congregational Singing	
Theme Interpretation: <i>Love the Word</i>	Jimmy Wilson
Special Music	
Administrative Committee Report	Mike Peavy
Executive Committee Report	Jimmy Wilson
Treasurer’s Report	John Carroll
Presentation 2009-2010 Budget	Tip McConnell
Disaster Relief	Jack Segars
GBC Executive Committee Report	Chris Conner
Worship in Music	
Recognition of Fraternal Visitors	J.B. Graham

Nominations to Committees	Eric Buffington
Congregational Singing	
Offertory Prayer	
Offering for the meal	
A greeting from Georgia Baptist	Clay Turner
The Blessing for our meal	Allen Whitley
Recess	

**Evening Session
7:00 P.M.
“Georgia” in Concert**

Congregational Singing	
Theme Interpretation: <i>Learn the Word</i>	Dr. Joe Davis
Worship in Drama	Bold Spring’ Stick Ministry
Bible Drill Emphasis	Monroe FBC
Adoption of 2009-2010 Budget	
Special Recognitions.	J.B. Graham
Recognition of Constituted Churches	Galen Jones
Report of BCM	
Oconee-Gainesville	Vaughn Calquitt
Perimeter College	Julian Sims
Miscellaneous Business	
Recommendation on Lampton Baptist Church	
Recommendation on Oconee-Gainesville Advisory Team	
Recommendation to adopt scholarship policy	
Other Matters	

“Georgia in Concert”

Theme Interpretation: <i>Live the Word</i>	Marion Prather
Prayer of Commitment	Les Roberts
Love Offering for “Georgia”	
Adjourn	

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about 10:45 and arrive at the church in plenty of time for a great time of fellowship. **Wednesday** will be a real treat. Missionaries, church staff and wives will travel to Duluth, Georgia and tour the Georgia Baptist Missions center. We will be able to dine with staff and friends in the ministry building and be welcomed by Dr. Robert White. As before busses will leave the Country Hearth Inn at about 9:30 to allow travel time to the Baptist Building. **If you are a church staff minister or wife of a church staff minister make sure your place is reserved on the bus by calling the associational office.**

The Vision is published monthly except for **July & August**. The Vision's purpose is to inform, encourage and share the story of the Appalachian Baptist Association of churches. Please share your Church's noteworthy activities and news items. Information should be received by the 21st of each month. You can send information by e-mail at administration@appalachee.org or mail to Appalachian Baptist Association, P.O. Box 1064, Monroe, Ga. 30655. The Vision is mailed free by request. If you wish to receive it, simply contact us and give us your name, church and mailing address.

The Vision

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The Apostle Paul put it simply
In I Thessalonians 5:25,
“Brethren, Pray for us.”

~East Side Baptist and
Pastor Darrell Gilmer
~Ebenezer Baptist and
Pastor Don Malcom
~Faith Baptist Church
~Fellowship Baptist
Pastor Tony Long
~First Baptist Bethlehem
Pastor Jody Hice

OCTOBER 2009

- 2-3rd Girls Extravaganza – Ga. Baptist
Conf. Center – Norman Park, Ga.
 - 4th Minister Appreciation Day
 - 6th WMU Associational Leadership
Team Meeting – ABA Mission Center
 - 6th Budget & Finance Committee
Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
 - 6th Associational Council Meeting –
11:00 a.m.
 - 6th Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
 - 10th Hearts United Ministry Day –
Calhoun, Metro Atlanta, Tifton
 - 13th Executive Committee Meeting – 3:00
p.m.
 - 13th 174th Annual Meeting – Annie Mary
Baptist Church
 - 17-21st On Mission Celebration
- Continuing Education-7:00 p.m –
9:00 p.m.-every Tuesday