

Appalachee Baptist Association
"A Family of Churches"
The Vision

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

Vol 12 – No. 2

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November 2009

174th Annual Meeting Huge Success

The Annie Mary Baptist Church welcomed messengers from the association church family with gracious Southern Hospitality. The crisp autumn air was filled with the savory odor of chickens roasting over an open pit while inside messengers conducted the 174th Annual Meeting of the historic Appalachee Baptist Association.



Instead of the two day session of days gone by, this annual session was very streamlined by comparison. Reports were mostly printed in a book of reports. Messages were brief. There were no overnight camping in wagons and all-night theological discussions.

Significant actions were taken that were indicative of continued growth and progress in the mission and administration of our association. The Lampton Baptist Church was received under watch care into our family of churches. Reverend C. E. Brown is the pastor.

A new volunteer office of associational stewardship director was approved. This officer is charged with assisting churches in the development and promotion of Biblical stewardship; promoting the corporative mission causes among Georgia Baptists and around the world; promoting the funding of Appalachee Baptist Association local missions and ministry causes; and assisting churches of the associational family to help individual members in personal financial needs.

In other actions an advisory council was approved to work with Oconee-Gainesville campus and our ministry with college students. Also, the messengers approved guidelines for our scholarship program for ministry students

In other actions a conservative ministry budget was unanimously ratified. The budget included new line items for the crises pregnancy center, summer missionary support, annual meeting expenses, and custodial services.

Special recognition was noted as Connecting Point in Bogart constituted into a church from mission status. Messengers unanimously received Connecting Point as a fully constituted church in the association. Reverend Tim Hunter is their pastor.

The theme this year was "The Word of God." Theme interpretations were: Love the Word, by Jimmy Wilson; Learn the Word, by J. B. Graham; and Live the Word, by Marion Prather.

A gospel concert in two parts was given by "Georgia" a traveling southern gospel men's trio.



In the section on “Learn the Word” the stick Ministry of the Bold Springs Church



performed with a visual interpretation of the books of the Bible, and a greeting by Dr. Bob White, executive director of the Georgia Baptist Convention was presented emphasizing Bible Drill.

Existing officers of the association were re-elected for a second term including Eric Buffington, Moderator; Jimmy Wilson, Vice Moderator; John Carroll, Treasurer; Gerald Malcom, Assistant Treasurer; Don Malcom, Clerk; and James Bolton, Assistant Clerk.

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WWW.APPALACHEE.ORG



ALCOVY MOUNTAIN CHURCH

The Alcovy Mountain church observed homecoming on September 12th. This celebration marked the 125th year since its founding. The guest speaker was Dr. Gerald Harris, Editor The Christian Index.



**LONG TIME LOCAL PASTOR AND WIFE
 AVAILABLE FOR MARRIAGE
 ENRICHMENT RETREATS**

Reverend Butch Butcher and Teri Butcher are available to hold marriage enrichment retreats in area churches. Teri and Butch are well known in our association and have been blessing evangelical churches in such retreats for several years. Butch is also a valuable resource in the area of “coaching pastors” and as a speaker in minister’s meetings. He is a regular contributor of religious editorials in the Walton Tribune.



NOVEMBER 26-27TH
 ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
 FOR THANKSGIVING

OMC BRINGS NEW INTEREST, EXCITEMENT IN MISSIONS!

October 17-21 were five action packed days involving thirty missionaries, twenty-nine churches, one ministry location, and one hundred forty-six mission messages. This celebration was the result of more than a year's planning.



The celebration began with a missions fair held at Bethlehem First Baptist Church fellowship hall.

Display tables of missionaries from various parts of the globe were set up so that fair goers could observe native artifacts, taste exotic foods, and talk to the missionaries.



Children were able to make mosaics and other items and have the missionaries autograph them. Prayer reminders were in ample supply.

No one has revealed an official count of the fair goers, but estimates were much higher than expectations in attendance.

**BI-VOCATIONAL AND RETIRED MINISTERS
& SPOUSES DINNER NOV. 19TH. CALL
770-267-8278 FOR RESERVATIONS**



Following the fair, a parade of flags of the states and countries where our missionary guests serve were led by a color guard from the Georgia National Guard.



Julian Sims, chorister from First Baptist, Social Circle sang and led their choir in special music. Joel Goddard music minister at FBC Bethlehem led congregational singing and provided additional worship in music. Dr. Jody Hice, Bethlehem's pastor extended a warm welcome to churches and missionaries. Each of the missionaries introduced themselves and identified their places of service. The service ended with a missions challenge by Robert Shehane, retired missionary from Indonesia.



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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While the adults and children met together in the Sanctuary scores of youth met around boxes of pizza and soft drinks in Bethlehem FBC's "Hangar" and participated in music provided by Faith Baptist youth ensemble and heard from missionary Tim Mitchell and his sons about their work in Peru among Japanese people groups.

Sunday morning participating churches heard special messages by a different missionary for the next five services.

The missionaries themselves enjoyed morning activities on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Early Monday we boarded a church bus to Freeman Creek Baptist Church, where 174 years ago this association was born. Pastor, Ken Jennings gave an excellent presentation of the history of Freeman Creek.



Lottie Moon once attended this historic church. Later the missionaries were honored with a luncheon at Walker Baptist and a special time with seniors from the various churches in the association. Tuesday Lunch was provided by FBC Loganville. There missionaries learned about Ministry Village, a cooperative ministry with the county.



On Wednesday the missionaries traveled again by church bus to Duluth to the Georgia Baptist Convention Ministry Center where a tour and luncheon had been planned.

"The best On Mission Celebration I've ever been in," said an International Mission Board missionary. Others in the lobby of the Country Hearth Inn, agreed. This was the prevailing feeling of a host of participating pastors and church leaders in Appalachian Baptist Association.
To God Be the Glory!