

The Vision

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

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Associational Missionary

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March 2010



Walker Hosts Fifth Senior Revival

Dr Melvin Blackaby, pastor Jonesboro Baptist Church, was featured along with his senior adult choir during a two service event for senior adults of the area. Dr. Blackaby's messages were inspiring and timely. On Wednesday, he delivered a message on the Holy Spirit followed by encouragement on Thursday to "live life abundantly." Walker Baptist seniors served everyone on Thursday noon with Gerald Malcom's homemade soup and cornbread. Rev. Jeff Box is pastor.



To qualify you must be a U.S. Citizen with a permanent residence or a non-citizen with a work visa. You must be 18 years old and have a valid social security number, and be able to pass a written test of basic skills. A valid driver's license is required and you must pass a background check. The job requires four days of training which you will be paid for. Apply today on line at www.2010censusjobs.gov or call 1-866-861-2010

**APPALACHEE MINISTERS' WIVES
ATTEND RETREAT**

Appalachee ministers' wives traveled to Toccoa Baptist Conference Center on Thursday, January 21st to join with others from across Georgia. Pictured below are left to right front row: Sherri Ellis, Cathy Blount, Areta Graham; back row: Holly Graham, Tami Burt, and Sandra Conner.



This retreat is an annual event and offers great opportunities for rest, relaxation, inspiration and fellowship. Churches should mark their calendars and encourage their ministers' wives to attend next year.

**U.S. CENSUS BUREAU OFFERS
TEMPORARY JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Although it is a temporary offer, the U. S. Census Bureau is offering job opportunities with good pay, close to home, flexible hours and paid training. The work schedule is typically from 20 to 40 hours of work per week. These positions require interviewing the public and you should be available to work when most people are usually at home such as evening and weekends.

Semi annual meeting April 29th, 7:00 p.m. Walker Baptist Church, 1150 Good Hope Rd., Monroe, Ga. Dr. Gerald Harris speaker

Grace Baptist Church Invites you to Winter Bible Conference February 28th-March 3rd

Pastor Brad Waters and the Grace Baptist Church invite you to their WINTER BIBLE CONFERENCE! This conference is especially prepared for Appalachian Baptist ministers and leaders. Each night there will be refreshing and inspiring music with guest musicians. Speakers will be Larry Wynn, pastor of Hebron Baptist Church; Ron Hewatt, retired pastor, chaplain and bible teacher; Jerry Grey, pastor of Woodlake Baptist Church; and Thomas Hammond, evangelism team of North American Mission Board.



Feb 28, 6:30



Mar 1, 7:00



Mar 2, 7:00



Mar 3, 7:00

DON'T FORGET ANNIE!

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions will be observed March 7-14 with the theme: "Live with Urgency Share God's Transforming Power." Three out of four people in the U.S. and Canada are Spiritually Lost! If they are going to hear of God's transforming power, we must live with a sense of urgency. That includes sacrificial giving so that the gospel may reach them. The national goal is \$70 Million. Your church can get free resource materials



to promote this great mission offering. The Georgia WMU office will provide prayer guides, posters and offering envelopes. Call 770-936-5321; or contact www.georgiawmu.org;

GEORGIA BAPTIST EXECUTIVE TO SPEAK TO APPALACHEE BROTHERHOOD



"Dr. J. Robert White, Executive Director-Treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Convention will be the featured speaker at the next Men's Ministry meeting Tuesday evening March 16th," says Reverend Kenneth Jennings, Brotherhood Director. The meeting will

be held at Bishop Baptist Church at 7:00 P.M.

FOCUS ON WMU WEEK IS FEB. 15-23

Nedra Jackson, Appalachee's WMU Director, reports that great things are happening in WMU. We are beginning new units bringing us up to 23 churches with WMU work. The new associational WMU by-laws are almost completed. Last fall a mission group sponsored by our WMU went to Boonville, KY. They ministered to senior citizens, an assisted living center, distributed food and clothing and engaged in construction work.



Women's Missionary Union emphasizes prayer for missions, learning about missions and engaging in missions among women and children. They are the "conscience for missions" within our associational family of churches.

Passion
J. B. Graham

Passion is often referenced by conversations regarding an almost uncontrollable urge toward some behavior or the satisfaction of an unusual dedication to a cause, a lifestyle or the fulfillment of raging desire. The object of passion may be healthy, worthy, immoral or sinister by nature. I have often heard the question, "what is your passion?" I take that to be restated as "what is the overarching force that drives your actions and or controls your life?"

Recently a group of ministers met with me for discussion coming out of the discovery that for several years our association has had no significant gains in the number of baptisms reported. We began with prayer, identified the situation and invited the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide us. After serious discussion we concluded that there are two "causes" that we could identify. They are: the lack of passion and prayer in our churches. This includes both the pulpit and the pew. We agreed that the two are very much linked.

Regarding prayer, there are a few churches who still hold real prayer meetings on Wednesday nights. They pray for lost people, the next Sunday's service, for the Bible study and for the minister and the sermon. Far too many, however pray only for sick members.

Passion doesn't come through doing several steps of a program or method. You can't really create it through guilt or shaming people for their lack of it. Passion can't be taught, it must be "caught!" The question is, "how do you catch it?" Here are some things I am doing personally. I invite you to join me.

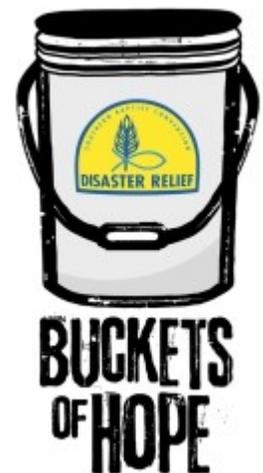
- Draw near to God through personal confession of sin and prayer.
- Pray for a vision of what it means to be eternally lost and doomed to God's judgment.
- Try to sense the compassion Jesus demonstrated in Matthew 9:35-38.
- Remember your emotions in witnessing tragedies such as 9-11 and Haiti and think

that 3 of every four persons in Georgia may be eternally lost!

- Refresh your theology to believe the truth of the bible that Jesus is the only way to God and not one of many ways.

BUCKETS OF HOPE FOR HAITI

The Buckets of Hope project for Haiti is a great way to help feed the hungry and homeless of that country. However, there has been some confusion as to where to get the buckets and exactly how to pack them. The following may clarify some questions: Contact www.namb.net and then click on "Buckets of Hope." There you will find all the information regarding purchase of buckets and packing them. Note that we are no longer limited to white buckets and a store labeled bucket (such as Home Depot) will be accepted however, they must have lids that fasten securely. The Appalachian Association office, 124 West Spring St. Monroe, GA is a collection point. March 15th is the target date for collection.



**APPALACHEE ASSOCIATION
SEEKS HISTORIAN AND STEWARDSHIP
DIRECTOR**

There is no definite connection between a historian and a stewardship director, except that ABA is in need of both. Our association is among the oldest in the Georgia Baptist Convention having been birthed in 1838. We have a rich history which needs to be chronicled. Additionally the Executive Committee adopted a new position recently, entitled "stewardship director." Both of these positions are very important and both require persons with some special giftedness. Pray that these workers will be found and if God is calling you for this work, contact us here. We love volunteers!

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.

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

~Mission Cristiana Peniel
~Morningside Baptist
~Mountain Creek Baptist
Pastor Steve Moon
~River Hills Baptist
Pastor Chip Wheeler
~The Point at Providence
Pastor George Thomas

MARCH 2010

- 1-2nd Evangelism Conference (Regional) Central Baptist Church. Warner Robins, Ga.
- 2nd Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 12-14th Journey – A Retreat for Teen Girls (Georgia WMU) – TBA
- 13th VBS Regional Training, Sarepta Baptist Association - TBD
- 13th Women on Mission Leaders Retreat – TBA
- 27th Prayerwalk in ABA Association - TBA
Continuing Education-7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.-
every Tuesday