

Appalachee Baptist Association
"A Family of Churches"

The Vision

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

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April 2010

Dr. Gerald Harris, Editor
The Christian Index
To Speak at Spring Meeting

The Appalachee Baptist Association is privileged to have Dr. Gerald Harris, editor *The Christian Index* as our featured speaker for the semi-annual meeting Thursday, April 29th, at Walker Baptist Church. Dr. Harris is no stranger to Georgia Baptists. He has served as editor of the "Index" since June of 2003. Before that Dr. Harris has served churches in Georgia, Mississippi, and North Carolina. Gerald married Martha Maxwell of Newnan, Georgia. They have a daughter, two sons and ten grandchildren. Dr. Harris earned a Master of Theology degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary. He is a prolific writer and popular revival evangelist.



THE SPRING MEETING
OF THE APPALACHEE BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

Thursday, April 29, 2010
WALKER BAPTIST CHURCH
1150 Good Hope Road
Monroe, Georgia

Theme: ...You shall hear a word from My mouth
and warn them for me. (Ezekiel 33:7b)

6:45 P.M. Pre-Session Music
Walker Baptist Choir

Call To Order Eric Buffington
Welcome Jeff Box
Motion to Seat Messengers Don Malcom
Theme Interpretation Mike Hardy
"A faithful watchman"

Congregational Singing
I stand Amazed in The Presence
The Wonderful Cross

Somebody warned me
First personal testimony Doug Brekke
Second personal testimony Nick Chambers
Concert of praise: Celebration Choir

Social Circle First Baptist Church
Preparing Future Watchmen Vaughn Calcutt
Oconee-Gainesville and Chad Ellis
Perimeter College ministries

Congregational Singing
Because We Believe
Who Can Satisfy My Soul Like Jesus

Nominating Committee Report James Bolton
Presentation of Awards and J B. Graham
Recognition of new ministers

Introduction of Guest Speaker J. B. Graham
Special Music
Walker Baptist Choir

Message Dr. Gerald Harris
A call to prayer Jimmy Wilson
Closing Praise

Shout to the North
Benediction Joe Davis



Listen to our radio broadcast over
WMOQ 92.3 FM every Saturday at 9:00
a.m. starting April 3rd.

From Pagan to Christian Worship

Easter was a pagan celebration originally. The word “Easter” can be traced to Germanic origin and was the name of a goddess who was worshipped at a festival during the spring equinox. The name is also closely related to Latin and Greek origins which means “Dawn”. It is interesting that even the pagans were struggling to satisfy that soul hunger for God in their celebrations of the newness of spring, the “dawn” of emerging life. I suppose that is where we got the idea of Easter eggs, baby chickens, bunny rabbits and such, an obvious connection with fertility.



But all that was changed with the most significant event in all of history, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! Now if you look it up in Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary you will find: *Eas-ter: A Christian feast commemorating the Resurrection of Jesus, celebrated on the first Sunday following the full moon that occurs on or next after March 21st.*

Most all religions have moral codes. In fact, many are based on works—how one lives up to their moral codes. All religions have a principal central figure, saint, founder, etc., such as Buddha, Mohammed, Joseph Smith, **but none but Christianity has a victorious resurrected Savior!** The Christian’s hope is based on the fact of the resurrection. We serve a living Savior instead of a dead historical figure. We have special Easter pageants, musical celebrations and yes, Easter egg hunts. We try to dress up sometimes even buying a new suit or tie. And we almost always go to church on Easter Sunday Morning. (Every Sunday morning should be a celebration of the resurrection.)

I sometimes question why we call it Easter as in “Happy Easter.” Why don’t we say, “**Happy Resurrection Sunday?**”

TRUETT-MCCONNELL COLLEGE OFFERS FACILITIES

Churches in Appalachian Baptist Association have been invited to tour the facilities of Truett-McConnell College for a possible summer camp, retreat, or getaway. They have very reasonable prices and the campus has over 200 breath taking acres. The maximum capacity for overnight accommodations is 400 persons. Contact Bobbi Moosbrugger at 706-865-2134 ext. 111 or 706-969-9798 for more information or a tour date.

VBS Clinic slated for April 27th

Rev. Steve Moon announces this year’s Vacation Bible School Clinic will be held on Tuesday, April 27th at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, Monroe Georgia. This year’s curriculum will be built around either “Boomerang Express (Australia)” or “Saddle Ridge (Western)” themes. The central scriptures are I John 4:9 or James 1:5. Vacation Bible Schools have been the most productive evangelistic tool for Southern Baptists in recent years. Did you know that there is an adult section of VBS and that you can conduct it at night or on Saturdays?

WMU News

April 3rd is the WMU Spring Mission Celebration to be held at Monroe First Baptist. The sessions begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 12 noon with a salad luncheon to follow. Please bring a salad and dessert.

April 16-17th is the annual WMU/WEM Missions Encounter at Douglasville Baptist Church in Douglasville, GA.

Your Denomination Needs You

To go to the Southern Baptist Convention Meeting in Orlando, Florida June 14-17th. This is one of the most critical meetings in our history because it has to do with the future of Evangelism and Missions through the Cooperative Program. The Georgia Baptist Convention has retained busses to assist in travel. The busses will depart from the Missions center in Duluth on Monday, June 14th at 8:30—9:00 a.m.; pick up more passengers at Mabel White Baptist Church in Macon at 10:30 a.m.; then travel to Norman Park to the conference center for lunch and leave for Orlando afterwards. The cost is \$80 per person round trip. Reservations will be taken up to May 14th for a deposit of \$25. The balance may be paid when you board the bus. Also, hotel reservations may be made by calling 1-800-327-9797 extension 11107. When you call identify yourself as a part of the “Georgia Baptist Convention Group” The cost is \$139 +12.5% tax per night (3 nights). Busses will return on the morning of the 17th.



Thank You For The Buckets

Appalachee Baptists were very generous in their response to the Buckets of Hope for Haiti. We handled nearly 500 buckets through our office collection point. Georgia Baptists together have collected over 16,700 to be loaded in trucks, then shipped to Haiti..



New Communication Tool



We have begun a new communication tool for those who prefer e-mail downloads. This will help get out information on a weekly basis instead of depending on the newsletter alone. In the past, there have been times when churches send in information about an event that should be in the newsletter and because of timing often the event takes place before the monthly newsletter is delivered. There are some limitations, of course. One limitation is that it is e-mail dependant and one must have a computer, an e-mail address and most of all, check e-mail frequently. We encourage you to send information about your church and ministries. Also, if you would like to receive the “Appalachee Baptist” each week, e-mail jbgraham@appalachee.org and we will get you on the list.

Association Office Has New Sign

The next time you are driving off Broad Street in Monroe at the intersection of W. Spring and Wayne street look up and to the right. We now have a new sign to identify the office location. The sign is the first part of some major renovations to begin next week on the inside of the building as well as some outdoor beautification.



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

*P. O. Box 1064
Monroe, Ga. 30655*

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

- ~ Summit Baptist Church
Pastor Joe Davis
- ~ The Connecting Point
Pastor Tim Hunter
- ~ Walker Baptist Church
Pastor Jeff Box
- ~ Watkinsville Memorial
Pastor James Edwards
- ~ Woodlake Baptist
Pastor Jerry Grey

APRIL 2010

- 2nd Good Friday – Office Closed
- 3rd ABA WMU-WEM Spring Meeting – TBA
- 4th Easter Sunday
- 6th Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 6th Associational WMU Leadership Team – ABA Mission Center
- 8th Budget & Finance Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- 8th Associational Council Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
- 15th Executive Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 16-17th Georgia WMU/WEM Missions Encounter – Douglasville, Ga.
- 29th Spring Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Continuing Education-7:00-9:00p.m-every Tuesday

MAY 2010

- 1st Youth On Mission Ministry Day – TBA
- 3rd Hearts Called to Pray Celebration – TBA
- 4th Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 16th Associational Emphasis & Claud Healan Memorial Offering