

# The Vision

of

## The Appalachian Baptist Association

*A family of churches on mission*

P.O. Box 1064, 124 W. Spring St., Monroe GA—770-267-827—[www.appalachee.org](http://www.appalachee.org)

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Vol. 13 – Num. 3

January 2011

## Special evangelism issue

The Evangelism Team of our association has taken on a gigantic task set for February 7, 8, and 9. Dr. Robert White, Executive Director Treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Convention has agreed to be the “crusade speaker” and three different Southern Gospel groups will provide concerts each night. The Worship Leader for these meetings will be Rev. Jon Graham. Services will begin each evening at 6:30 at the Monroe Area High School, 300 Double Springs Church Road, Monroe, Georgia. This evangelistic event is called “The Renewing Hope Crusade” and is open to all evangelical churches as well as our Baptist family of churches. The goal is to present the good News of salvation to all people of our area. We need your help to do this! Most of this issue is dedicated to that end. WILL YOU HELP US?

**Pray for our speaker.** Dr. White is well known among Georgia Baptists. He has served Georgia Baptists as our Executive Director for 17 years. Prior to coming to us he served churches in Kentucky and Alabama. Dr. White has earned degrees from Sanford University, Birmingham Alabama, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville Kentucky. For several years Dr. White has distinguished himself as an evangelistic speaker with a warm heart for lost people. Pray earnestly for God’s anointing on Dr. White.



**Enjoy the music.** We have enlisted three singing groups for your enjoyment. On Monday evening GEORGIA a southern gospel trio will be in concert. Tuesday evening you will enjoy The Watkins Family presenting their music with a blue grass touch. The Diplomats, award winning southern gospel group of seven will present the final evening’s concert. Rev. Jon Graham will serve as worship leader each evening. So come and be ready to sing!



**Join in concerts or prayer.** Serious specific prayer always precedes a successful evangelistic endeavor. So we are asking each church (your church is included) to pray for this event. Pray for specific lost people you know as well as others who may come. Find three or four people to agree with you to pray specifically for this crusade. Also, pray for a spiritual awakening and renewed passion for people who are unsaved. Pray for your church to make winning people to Christ its number one passion.



**The Renewing Hope Crusade.** This name was chosen to incorporate three basic themes. First out of a compassion for the lost people of our area we wanted to provide an opportunity to present the gospel. Second, we wanted to create a renewed passion for souls among the members of our churches. Third, since there is so much despair about the economy, politics, crime, and distrust of almost every institutional entity we sought to bring hope wherever possible.

**Getting ready.** What does my church need to do to get ready? We have already talked about the importance of prayer. We cannot emphasize this more strongly. Please find a way to engage in prayer for this crusade! Beside prayer, each church should visit *door to door* their prospects. If your church doesn't have a current prospect list, you can form one easily. Have each member list persons in their circle of influence starting with lost family members, then lost neighbors, then people they work with and finally those they come in contact with who are either lost or the church member is uncertain about. You



can also add those who for some reason have dropped out of church. With that list in hand have the church pray specifically for these prospects.

**Prospect visitation.** This is a practice that has suffered in recent years and that to our shame. Most churches visit those who visit in worship services. Some churches encourage Sunday School classes to visit. But for many this is all the prospect visitation that occurs. Would you accept the challenge to visit folks on their prospect list, witness to them, and invite them to the crusade?

**Spread the word in your community.** Some call it a "neighborhood blitz" but however it is identified, we have ordered 6 thousand plastic bags to place information in and place on door knobs in as many neighborhoods as possible. We will have the basic flyer with the information about the crusade, as well as some gospel tracts. Each church then, can add "personalized" information that will promote your church's activities and ministries. Be sure to enclose your church's contact information including phone and address, pastor's name, service times, etc. On one occasion years ago my church did a "blitz" and simply left a



refrigerator magnet saying “if you have a spiritual need call...” We were surprised how many responses came in over the next few months. Saturday morning just before the crusade starts on the following Monday would be a good time for the “blitz.” Children’s mission groups, youth groups, and adults can cover lots of homes if planned well.



**Counselors will be needed.** At the time of invitation toward the close of the service we will need counselors to move quickly down toward the front. We would like to have a counselor available for each person who responds. Some will be for salvation, some for rededication and others for other spiritual needs. Lay persons especially will be needed. This would be a time to sharpen your skills in witnessing even though we will have guides for you. Your church may wish to review a basic witnessing plan. Please keep it simple.

**Follow up.** Each person who responds to the invitation will be asked to give a preference as to a church in the area. Whatever church he or she names will be given the opportunity to conduct a follow up visit for clarification, discipleship or ministry to their spiritual need. This is very important and should be considered as part of the crusade. Our evangelism team may contact your church to learn what has happened in follow up so that we may rejoice with you.

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## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

*An Evening with Angela Thomas*  
*“Brave: Honest Questions Women Ask”*



*Thursday February 10, 2011*

*6:30 pm*

Briarwood Baptist Church  
1900 Robinhood Rd & Hwy 53, Watkinsville, GA 30677

Advance Tickets are \$ 20 adults/\$ 10 students  
Call 706-769-7660 for information

**Rev. Clyde Self, Pastor, Life Springs Baptist Church and our Sunday School VBS Director announces a curriculum walk-through for VBS on Tuesday, February 22 at 7 P.M. This presentation is compliments of Rick Stevens, Lifeway Christian Store.**

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**In-Form-U** - The Appalachian Association WMU is sponsoring a meeting in the Carver Middle School on February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M. to inform our communities about human trafficking, childhood exploitation, bullying, domestic violence, and internet pornography. Peace officers and lawmakers will inform parents of these alarming issues and help them know how to respond. Parents and Grandparents should attend this event if at all possible!

*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 21<sup>st</sup> of each month. You can send information by e-mail at [administration@appalachee.org](mailto: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  
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The Apostle Paul put it simply in  
I Thessalonians 5:25,  
“Brethren, pray for us.”

- ~ First Baptist Winder  
Pastor John Talley
- ~ Freeman Creek  
Pastor Ken Jennings
- ~ Grace Baptist  
Pastor Brad Waters
- ~ Harmony Baptist  
Pastor Brant Callaway
- ~ Lampton Baptist  
Pastor C. E. Brown
- ~ Life Springs  
Pastor Clyde Self

**JANUARY 2011**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> WMU Associational Leadership Team Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Evangelism Team Meeting – 7:00 p.m.  
Continuing Education – every Tuesday – 7-9:00 p.m.

**FEBRUARY 2011**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sisters Who Care
- 7-9<sup>th</sup> Renewing Hope Crusade, Monroe Area High School – 6:30 p.m.
- 14-20<sup>th</sup> WMU Focus Week
- 15<sup>th</sup> Budget/Finance Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Associational Council Meeting – 11:00 a.m.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Children's Ministry Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> In-Form-U Meeting, Carver Middle School – 7:00 p.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Bivocational & retired ministers & wives game night - 6:30 p.m.
- 2/28-3/1 Evangelism Conference – First Baptist Church, Conyers, GA