

The Vision
of
The Appalachian Baptist Association
A family of churches on mission

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SPRING MEETING TO BE AT BOLD SPRINGS

Reverend James Bolton has graciously offered to host the spring meeting of the Appalachian Baptist Association at the Bold Springs Baptist Church. Invitations have been sent out for an excellent speaker and we are waiting to confirm his acceptance. The spring meeting is for fellowship and inspiration. Business is kept to a minimum. There have been some suggestions that following the meeting we all have a "build your own ice cream sundae" Do you like chocolate, strawberry or vanilla? Okay, then mark April 28th at 7:00 p.m. on your calendar!

N-Forum-U-Net

The Women's Missionary Union of the Appalachian Baptist Association sponsored a community-wide information meeting at the Carver Middle School, Monroe, Georgia on February 24th at 7:00 p.m. Parents and guardians were invited to learn about the human exploitation of children and youth.

Law enforcement officers and other community leaders made presentations, and answered questions about issues at our very doorstep.

An overview of bullying/cyber bullying, gang/drug activity, internet abuse, and criminal sexual exploitation of children and youth was presented.

Parents and guardians were made aware of available resources and community services through hand-outs and word of mouth.

Thanks to Mrs. Nedra Jackson and the WMU leadership team for a wonderful job of planning

Banquet Launches 18 Month Stewardship Campaign



More than one hundred sixty-five persons attended a nice sit down banquet Saturday, March 5th. The Banquet was hosted by the Center Hill Monroe Baptist Church, the Reverend Marion Prather, Pastor. A dozen and a half of Center Hill's youth served as table waiters. Pastors and spouses, and lay leaders and their spouses were invited. Eighty percent of the Appalachian Family of Churches participated. Around fifty persons from the Georgia Baptist Convention were there. On Sunday morning these speakers/visitors were in our church worship services.



This event launched an eighteen month pilot project with the Georgia Baptist Convention. The project is designed to assist pastors in stewardship efforts, develop church stewardship programs and empower our witness. The goals include increasing the offering, an increase in ministry, providing monthly stewardship materials, providing stewardship training for individuals and families, and enriching the spiritual climate in our churches.

Harmony Deacon Publishes Book

Sandy Malcom's new book, Standing Upright has just been released and is available. Sandy is also available to speak to men's groups in our association. His contact information is 770-601-1487 or sandymalcom@windstream.net.

Rev. Wilburn Hill Receives Honor



Dr. J. B. Graham presented a plaque on behalf of the Georgia Baptist Convention to Reverend Wilburn Hill, Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church. The plaque was in recognition for faithful service as 2nd Vice President of the Georgia Baptist Convention during the year 2010. Brother Hill had retired earlier from the Centennial Baptist Church in the Morgan County Association. However, after a few months he discovered that retirement was not for him and he accepted the call to Fellowship Church.

Mission Accomplished!

Reverend John Whitehead, long time pastor of the Lighthouse Ministry at Conestoga Mobile Home Park died December 20th. He was laid to rest on Thursday the 23rd. Rev. Brant Calloway officiated in the memorial service. This is a great loss for those

of us who remain, especially the Conestoga Mobile Home community, but the ministry will continue through the efforts of Pam Whitehead who worked side by side with John and the help of the Harmony Baptist Congregation. Pictured above are John and Pam on the steps of the chapel.



WMU MISSION CELEBRATION

March 19th at Mars Hill Baptist Church. Speaker will be Esther Burroughs. Registration 9:00 – meeting at 10:00. The cost is \$7.00 (includes lunch). Deadline is March 14th. For more information contact Nedra Jackson at 678-227-3488 or njackson9559@bellsouth.net.

VBS CURRICULUM WALK-THROUGH INFORMATIVE



Pastor and Mrs. Jimmy Edwards learn about the VBS materials featuring the “Big Apple,” NYC, during this year’s presentation by Rick Stevens, Manager of the LifeWay Christian Store at the Mall of Georgia. VBS continues to be our most productive evangelistic event among churches.

Faith Zone Sports Camp



Sponsored by Faith Baptist,
Monroe

June 13—17

Attention Campers and Parents

This is an incredible 5 day camp where young athletes will experience physical challenges and learn the importance of fair play and sportsmanship. Each child may choose to participate in any 2 events from the following: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Softball, Track & Field, Golf, Football, Soccer, Frisbee Golf and Tennis. For 4th—6th graders Volleyball and Ultimate Frisbee is available. Register early for best prices. Camp is limited to 300. Call 770-267-6603 for prices.



FROM WHERE I SIT

J. B. Graham

I was all of six years old and my dad was the bi-vocational pastor of a small struggling church in New Mexico. We had a few cows and their spring calves. It was my job to close the gate after the livestock was fed. This was something that became quite routine as we finished the chores and gathered into the house for supper. It was also routine that at the supper table, dad would ask, "Jerry, did you close the gate?" This happened every night regardless of the circumstances. I would always proudly answer in the affirmative. However, one night I heard the inquisition and began to tremble because I had not closed the gate. I knew it had to be done to keep the calves in out of danger of the cold. I also knew that at our house everyone did his assignment. My problem wasn't the weather. It was terrible that night. My problem was that it was already dark and I was afraid of the dark. Mother knew of my fear and to reassure me she placed my old checked wool coat around me and tied a scarf around my neck. I was still afraid, but I opened the door, unlatched the screen door and stepped out into the pitch black night with heavy snow driven by strong sideways wind. I just knew I'd never get back to the house alive! But I hadn't taken more than a step or two until I felt the warm strong arm of my father around my shoulders. Needless to say, I (we) walked straight to the gate, closed and latched it and returned triumphantly to the house. No words were needed—just my dad's presence.

Isn't that the way it is with the Heavenly Father? When you know He is calling you to do something and you are afraid. When in obedience you take the first step, a step of faith, then you always feel the warm strong arm of the Heavenly Father. His presence makes everything alright!

Jesus said, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matt 28:20)

WALKER HOLDS SENIOR REVIVAL AGAIN



Brother Gerald Malcom has been the organizer of what he calls the "Senior Revival" at Walker Baptist Church. He invites churches in our area to join them at 11:00 a.m. on a Wednesday and Thursday each year to hear great music from an area congregation and then hear a special guest speaker. This was the 6th year and the choirs from Sunrise Baptist, Lawrenceville, GA and Chestnut Grove, Grayson, GA provided the music under the direction of their choir leader.



Dr. Gerald Harris was the speaker. He brought dynamic and challenging messages both days. One tradition is quite tasty! Walker church folks prepare huge pots of soup and provide sandwiches for lunch on the second day.

HARMONY BAPTIST SEEKS PIANIST



Mr. William Kilgore, Worship Leader at Harmony Baptist Church is seeking a pianist. He is asking anyone who is interested in this position to contact him at 770-654-7341 or 770-267-5717. He would also appreciate any one who knows of a good instrumentalist to pass this information to them.

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

- ~ Mars Hill Baptist
Pastor Steve Bingham
- ~ Mission Cristiana Peniel
Pastor Edwin Sierra
- ~ Morningside Baptist
Pastor Tim Aaron
- ~ Mountain Creek Baptist
Interim Pastor Anthony Wimpey
- ~ New Life Ministry
Pastor Rick King
- ~ River Hills
Pastor Chip Wheeler

MARCH 2011

- 1st Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 5-6th “Better Bridges” in participating churches
- 15th Evangelism Team – 7:00 p.m.
- 19th ABA WMU Spring Meeting
Continuing Education-7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.-
every Tuesday

APRIL 2011

- 5th Minister's Meeting – 12:00 p.m.
- 12th Budget & Finance Committee Meeting –
10:00 a.m.
- 12th Associational Council Meeting – 11:00
a.m.
- 12th ABA WMU Leadership Team Meeting –
6:30 p.m.
- 14th Executive Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- 15-16th Missions Encounter (WMU)-Byne
Memorial Church, Albany, Ga.
- 22nd Good Friday – Office Closed
- 24th Easter Sunday
- 28th ABA Spring Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Continuing Education-7:00-9:00p.m-every
Tuesday