

The Vision

Of

The Appalachian Baptist Association

"A family of churches on mission"

P.O. Box 1064, 124 W. Spring St., Monroe, GA 30655

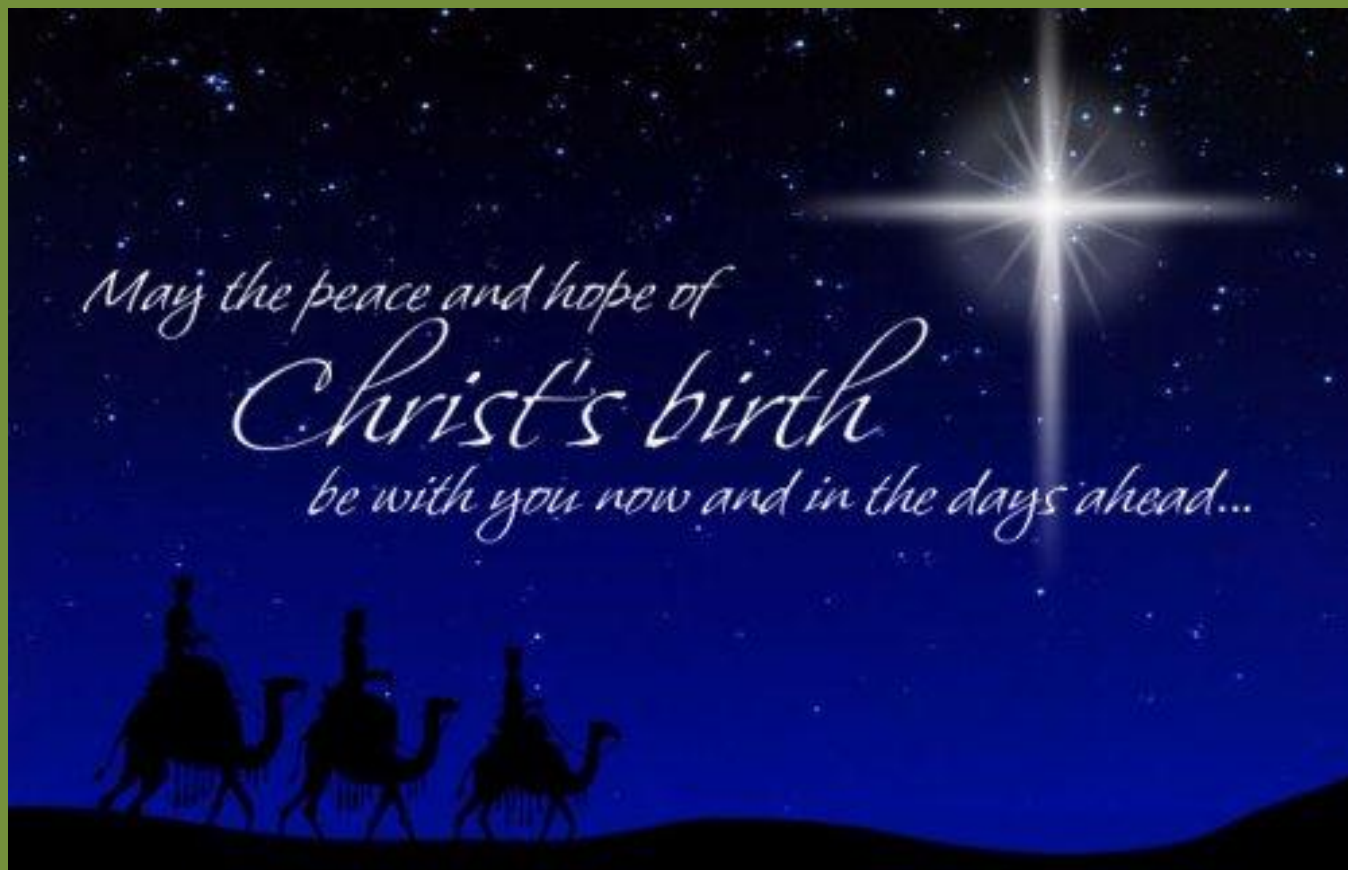
770-267-8278 - www.appalachee.org

Rev. Eric Buffington, Associational Missionary

Virginia Mason, Administrative Assistant

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*May the peace and hope of
Christ's birth
be with you now and in the days ahead...*

Merry Christmas

And a Happy & Blessed New Year

From Your Appalachian Baptist Association

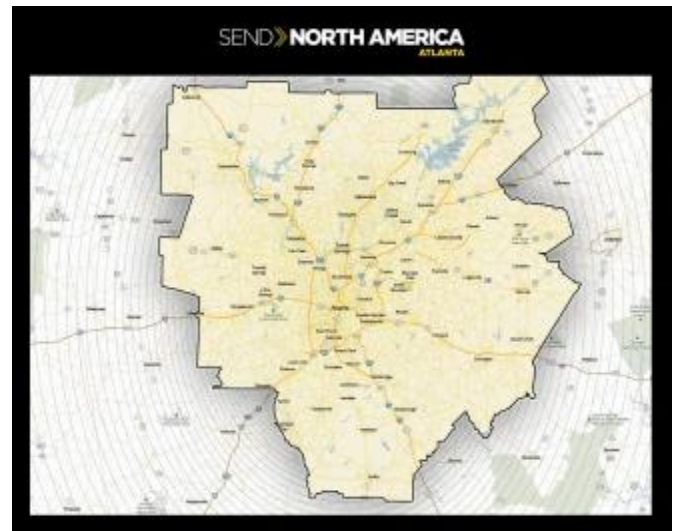
SEND ATLANTA:
Appalachee Association joins in new church planting movement with NAMB

If, by some unthinkable catastrophe, everyone in the United States and Canada were to pass into Eternity today some 259 million individuals would do so without a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Let that number sink in for a moment. Let the consequences of them dying outside of Christ sink in for a moment.

Lostness is on the rise in North America. No longer can we safely assume that our neighbors know Jesus because they are living in the United States. For the reality is this, some of them have not heard the Gospel at all. Others may have heard the Good News of Jesus, but only in a distorted way through those who would use the Gospel for personal gain. As ambassadors of Christ, we need to find ways to penetrate and reverse this growing spiritual darkness.

One of the best ways to penetrate darkness is to ignite new lights. New church plants offer the opportunity to reach new people groups using the best of the present, past and future. They also provide existing churches with multiple opportunities for revitalization and renewal as those existing churches step out in support of the new works.

Recently the North American Mission Board initiated a new church planting movement called SEND North America. As part of that movement, North America was divided into 5 large segments representing various demographic & geographic boundaries and spiritual realities. Thirty metropolitan regions, representing the largest population areas in each segment, were then identified as launching pads for the SEND Movement. One of those regions is the 20 county areas that comprise metropolitan Atlanta. The Atlanta region was then divided into 5 segments, one of which, the Northeast segment, includes the Appalachee Association.



As part of the Northeast segment, the Appalachee Association has the opportunity to submit proposals for new strategic church plants that will, over the next 10 years, have access to the resources of the SEND North America movement. Please join the leadership teams of your Association in prayer as we seek areas & population groups within Appalachee Association that are in need of new works.



***Our 2nd Associational Mission Trip To
Haiti is set for April 20th to 27th
Is God Calling You to Go On Mission?***

Are you ready to go on mission to Haiti? The dates have been set for our next Associational mission trip with Haitian Christian Outreach (HCO). We are looking to put together a team of 15 people from the churches of the Appalachian Association for this mission journey. The total cost will be approximately \$1700 depending on the cost of airfare. HCO is a wonderful organization that has evangelism at the heart of everything it does. Requirements for the trip are easy. You need to be 17 or older, in good physical shape overall, a ready to share the gospel with the Haitian people. We are looking for individuals with basic or advanced skills in construction, children's ministry and in the medical field. If you are interested please contact the Association office and ask to speak to Eric, or you can call me at 770-540-6134. For general information about what mission trips with HCO are like, you can call me (Eric) or Jeff Box at Walker Baptist & Buster Brown at Anne Mary. Each of us has had the blessing of going on trips with HCO in this year.

***Baptist Collegiate Ministries at
Georgia Perimeter College
Needs Your Help!***

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry at Georgia Perimeter College needs the help of our churches and church organizations. The BCM provides free lunch on Tuesdays for students at their meetings. We are seeking groups that will help by either providing lunch or defraying the cost of one of these important Tuesday meals. If you are interested in helping, please email Julian Sims at jsims@fbcsc.org or call the Association office. Thank you in advance!

***Thank You for the Opportunity
to serve full time as the Appalachian
Baptist Associational Missionary***

For nearly eleven years, I had the privilege and honor of serving in the Appalachian Association as the Pastor of Bishop Baptist in addition to my recent service as part-time Associational Missionary. When the door opened for the move to full time Associational Missionary, it became clear that I needed to take a step of faith. After much prayer, I resigned as pastor of Bishop effective Nov. 25th. I look forward to the greatly expanded opportunities to work with our churches being the full time AM will provide. Thank you for giving me the chance to serve the churches of our Association in this capacity. It is my hope that we will together be able to build on the firm foundation established for us by former Associational Missionaries, like Dr. J.B. Graham, as we develop an Association on the cutting edge of what God is doing in our world.

Sincerely, Rev. Eric Buffington



It is never too early to plan for VBS! The 2013 VBS preview for Appalachian Association is set for February 5th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Association Office. Representatives from LifeWay Christian Resources will be with us to provide a preview of VBS material from LifeWay, Brentwood Kids, Gospel Light, Group and Standard publishing. Mark Feb. 5th on your calendar & join the VBS fun!

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

- ~Monroe FBC
Pastor Glen Money
- ~Morningside Baptist
Pastor Tim Aaron
- ~ Mountain Creek Baptist
Pastor Anthony Wimpey
- ~ Social Circle FBC
Pastor Mike Hardy

December 2012

- 2-9 Week of Prayer for Int. Missions
- 4 Minister's Christmas Meeting
Office 11:00 am
- 12/21-1/2 Office Closed for Christmas

January 2013

- TBA Appalachian WMU Leadership Meet
TBA
- 8 Budget & Finance Meeting
Office 10:00 am
- 8 Associational Council Meeting
Office 11:00 am
- 8 Mission Development Team
Office 2:00 pm
- 10 Executive Committee Meeting
Office 7:00 pm
- 24-26 Selah Retreat For Leaders of Women
Pinnacle Retreat Center
Continuing Education-every Tuesday
7:00-9:00 pm