

Troup Baptist Association

Finding Success in Difficult Situations

Do you remember Joseph? He's the guy in the Bible for whom his father made a Coat of Many Colors. He's also the same guy who told all his older brothers that they would one day bow down and serve him. For the record, that's not a good thing to tell your older brothers, when you're the baby and your daddy shows you favoritism. They stole his coat, threw him into a pit, and sold him into slavery. They then took his coat and dipped it in the blood of an animal they had killed, took it to their daddy, and told him Joseph had been killed by a wild beast. From there Joseph wound-up in the house of Potiphar. Miss Potiphar had eyes for him. So, he ran away from her, but in the process she told folks he tried to rape her. He then went to prison. In prison he met the king's butler and baker. He interpreted dreams for them. True to his interpretation, the butler was restored but the baker was killed. He told the butler to remember him when he got out of jail. However, he forgot him – until the king had a dream that nobody could

interpret. The baker then remembered him and told the king about him.

Joseph then correctly interpreted the king's dream. Because of this the king promoted Joseph to be his second in command over all of Egypt.

Joseph married and God blessed him with two sons. He named the first: Manasseh, which means: "Forget." Joseph said it was because, "... God hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house." He named his second child: Ephraim, which means: "Fruitful." Joseph said, "For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction."

With the naming of his sons, Joseph makes two powerful statements. First, he states that God, in His infinite wisdom, had caused him to forget the pain caused by his highly dysfunctional family. In fact, it could be said that his family put the "D" in dysfunctional!!! Secondly, he acknowledged that God used the difficult places, circumstances, and situations of his life to make him successful. He does the same for us. But we often forget this! Success is wrought in the

difficult places and circumstances of life!

I was in a meeting recently with Pastor Frank Sledge. Brother Frank was sharing from the plethora of his life experience. He told about assuming the pastorate of a small country church. He had only been there a few weeks when a big burly farmer, dressed in his overalls, came in the church and sat on the back row. As the service progressed, the farmer got up from his seat, walked down the aisle, took out a check, and placed it in the offering plate. He then returned to his seat. Brother Frank asked the Chairman of the Deacons who the man was. He told him his name, that he only attends once a year, and that he does the same thing every year. When all the farmer's crops are in for the year, his accountant determines his profitability, and he brings the church his annual tithe. Brother Frank told the chairman to give him the check. It was a sizeable amount and the church needed the money. The next day, prompted by the Holy Spirit, he did one of the most difficult things he had ever done. He went to the farmer and handed the

check back to him. The farmer said, "Preacher, I don't understand. Is there something wrong with my check?" He replied, "No. I'm sure that the bank would honor it." "Then why are you giving it back?" he asked. He replied, "Because God's not interested in your money. He's interested in you!" Again, it was one of the hardest things he ever had to do. But the next Sunday, the farmer stood before the church with tears flowing. He repented before God and asked the church to forgive him. He became a sold-out follower of Jesus Christ. God caused Brother Frank and the farmer to become fruitful in the land of their affliction - the difficult place!

Whether it is Joseph, the farmer, you, or me, the principle remains the same: God often uses difficult people, places, situations, and circumstances to make us successful. "For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction." To coin an old cliché: No pain – no gain!

Brother Aaron

News

Association - This group of men, representing several of the association churches, met September 14th in the sanctuary portion of the association office to discuss the possibility of existing men's ministries partnering together to do local mission projects and to discuss the possibility of forming an Association



Men's Ministry. While no decisions were made, it was a very productive meeting. Thank you Doyle Young and Ken Shaddix for presenting.

MEN'S MINISTRY



Association - The Men's Ministry from Grace Baptist Church volunteered their labor as well as materials to paint a classroom at the Troup Baptist Association. Richard King from Lakeview Baptist Church removed a partition from the room making it a much larger and more useful space. New carpet is being installed in the classroom now and it will be ready for use on October 5 for the Rediscovering Sunday School training event.



Grace Baptist Men's Ministry

- Top Left: Sam Cordero
- Top Right: Ron Slater
- At Left: Ken Shaddix
- Not shown: Doyle Young



Troup Baptist Association

Mission Statement:

The Troup Baptist Association is a Spiritual, educational, and community resource that, through cooperative fellowship, equips pastors, staff, and churches as they seek to fulfill The Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

Association: At 5:30 pm on September 14th, Berta Weathersbee Principal Willie Cooks, his staff, teachers, Superintendent, Board of Education members, City of LaGrange Council Representative, Partners in Education, parents, students, and other community members, gathered at Berta Weathersbee Elementary School in LaGrange for a "Tearing of the Tape Ceremony". The ceremony celebrated the completion of renovations made to the school during the summer and signifies a new beginning at Berta. The ceremony celebrated the history of the school and emphasized the positive changes being made at the school. The Troup Baptist Association is proud to be a Partner in Education with Berta.



Berta Weathersbee Tearing of the Tape Ceremony



The annual Senior Adult Rally sponsored by the Troup Baptist Association was held on September 7 at Callaway Baptist Church. There was a good turnout for the event. Thank you to Callaway for hosting and preparing the delicious meal. (photo above)

News (continued)

Association - On September 21, Bro. Frank Sledge was the presenter for the two leadership mentoring groups that Bro. Aaron leads for young preachers and pastors in their first pastorate. Bro. Aaron has entitled this phase of the training: Sitting at the Feet of the Masters. He is utilizing some of our senior statesmen (retired pastors) to pour into the lives of the participants. Bro. Frank did an outstanding job!



Leadership Mentoring Group
with Rev. Frank Sledge

Above L-R: Rev. Frank Sledge, Tommy Jeter, Gary Smith, Phillip McMillian, Kenneth Whitlock, Durley Gates, Bernie Pasley & Derrick Williams

Association - The Bi-vocational Pastors & Wives met on September 16 at the home of Dr. Lamar Truitt and his wife Carol of Lakeview. The group enjoyed a Mexican themed meal followed by music and singing. (See photo above right)

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - The Food Closet provided 397 boxes of food and 522 meals last month. Baptist Tabernacle partners with Whitesville Road Elementary School Back Pack Buddies helping to feed the children on the weekend. The Clothes Closet served 171 people. The Food and Clothes Closets are open every Thursday from 9 - 11 am. • The Young Adult Group (age 18-30) met on September 30 for a time of devotion followed by bowling. • Homecoming will be held on October 1 at 10:30 am with a covered dish lunch following the worship service.

Creekside - During August and September, Creekside baptized five new converts! In addition, fourteen moved their memberships to Creekside. • As a bi-monthly outreach project, they prepared 85 meals on September 26 to feed the 'Seniors' in their community. • Six 'seniors' from Creekside attended the annual Senior Adult Rally held at Callaway Baptist Church; all had a great time. • Creekside had a great revival with one salvation and several re-dedications.

Randy and Sherri Miller (at right) entertained the crowd at the annual Senior Adult Rally on September 7. The seniors enjoyed a meal together, good music and singing and some jokes too. Lots of door prizes were given away.



Bi-Vocational Pastors & Wives

Front L-R: Rev. Bernie Pasley & Heather, Marianne McCollough, Kay Hodge, and Carol Truitt
Standing L-R: Rev. Kenneth Whitlock, Rev. Richard & Judy King, Rev. Lamar Truitt, Elaine Whitlock, Rev. Bryan & Janet Geter, Rev. Aaron McCollough & Rev. Randall Hodge



Above L-R: Greg Shelnutt, Jay Greathouse, Kristen Cruce, Ally Costly, and Kathy Brooks(not pictured) were baptized at Creekside Baptist Church.

Davidson - Davidson Youth had a spectacular youth night on Saturday, September 23. Jason May with the "Recovery Addiction Program" of Pine View Baptist shared his personal testimony. It was a very powerful and moving experience that kept our youth totally focused on his experiences. "Praise and Glory to God!"

The Troup Baptist Association received contributions totaling \$3,787.00 for Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief.

Rosemont Baptist Church served as a collection site for the "Buckets of Hope" for flood victims. They received approximately 145 buckets stocked with cleaning supplies. Thanks to all churches and individuals who helped to make this possible.

News (continued)

Highland - Homecoming Service was held on Sunday, September 10, and it was wonderful! The Sledge Family started things off with some beautiful music and Pastor Rick Todd delivered a dynamic message. Of course the food and fellowship was awesome as well. It was a great day!



Above Left: Rev. Rick Todd Above Right: Rev. Frank Sledge
Below: Highland's Homecoming Fellowship Meal



HIGHLAND HOMECOMING

New Hope (LaGrange) - was blessed with five new members in the past month! • The children had a barrel of fun at the Back to School Bash on September 6. • Several members attended the Senior Adult Rally on September 7 at Callaway Baptist Church. It was a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and fun. • On September 17, Mr. Ken Lee was ordained as a deacon during a sacred and solemn laying on of hands ceremony. New Hope is blessed to have Ken and his wife Brenda as servants in our fellowship. Also elected to serve a three year term as deacons were Mr. Ken Foster (wife, Yvonne) and Mr. Eddie Wilson (wife, Shelley). • Sunday School Director, Ashley Langford, continues to encourage Sunday School attendance to study God's Word and to grow in knowledge. She is trusting the Lord to send needed teachers. On Sunday September 24, everyone enjoyed a breakfast together before Sunday School. • The Missions and Ministry group met on Sunday, Sept. 24 in the Family Life Building after the worship service and enjoyed a lunch together.

Lakeview - A fundraising supper was held September 6 to benefit paving of the parking lot. Thank you to Carol Truitt for a delicious supper and to all those attending who made very generous donations for this project. • The Brotherhood has continued making improvements for the building and grounds; a special project for September was trimming all the shrubbery. Several members continued to minister to residents of Poplar Creek Assisted Living through devotionals and music.

Teaver Road - added two new people to their church family, baptized one follower of Jesus Christ, and dedicated one baby boy to the Lord in the month of September! • The Acts 1:8 missions' team has been busy collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. They are also providing meals for families of Hospice patients once a month. • Mark Cavender was ordained as a deacon on September 24, 2017.



Above Right Teaver Road Pastor Ben Turner presenting newly ordained deacon Mark Cavendar with a Bible and Certificate of Ordination.

Wehadkee - "Greetings from Wehadkee!" Several men attended the "Man Up" conference in Roanoke, AL. They enjoyed supper and preaching and all came away with a blessing. Those attending were Rev. Nick Pilgrim, Leon Wessinger, Dan Shay, and Jimmy Massey. • A special "thank you" to Mrs. Dana Alford for doing a great job of maintaining the bulletin board. • "Thank you, Lord for sparing us from the storm."

Western Heights - A Retirement Celebration to honor and thank Pastor Greg Brown was held at the Del'avant Center on August 29. Dr. Greg Brown retired at the end of August after serving in ministry for 21 years at Western Heights.



Above: Pastor Greg Brown's Retirement Celebration

Ministry Spotlight



Reeds Chapel Honduras Mission Trip

June 8-12, 2017, eleven people from Reeds Chapel Baptist Church in West Point, Georgia traveled to La Ermita, Honduras to work with New Desire Christian Ministries. One of our jobs was to prepare the forms for a church expansion that would add a kitchen. Our men worked with the Honduran men to pour a 20'x30' concrete slab. They mixed, shoveled, and poured the concrete by hand. The kitchen will be used to feed the elders and school children in the community. Our next job was for our women and youth to go to the local school to teach an English

lesson to the first graders and a Bible story to the 1-6 graders. After leaving the school, we went to church members' homes to assist in feeding the elders. We fed over fifty-five elders. Some carried half their meal home, as this may be the only meal they have for two weeks. The feeding kitchen is now complete, up and running, and is preparing lunch for the elders once a week. They are also partnering with the local school to feed the students once a week.

Would you prayerfully consider inviting us to come into your church to share our story with you and tell you how you can partner with us, either financially, or by going with us on our next mission trip? The need is great and you can make a difference!

I'll leave you with these verses, *"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."*
(Matthew 25:35-40)

Nicki Freeman (Reeds Chapel Mission Team)
nickifreeman1973@gmail.com 706.773.1935



October is Pastor Appreciation Month



Remember to recognize your
Pastor and his Family during
Pastor Appreciation Month

Association - Church Prayer List

For October 2017, please pray for following churches:

Week of October 1, 2017 - Baptist Tabernacle Church
Week of October 8, 2017 - Bethel Baptist Church
Week of October 15, 2017 - Bethlehem Baptist Church
Week of October 22, 2017 - Callaway Baptist Church
Week of October 29, 2017 - Concord Baptist Church

For November 2017, please pray for following churches:

Week of November 5, 2017 - Confidence Missionary Baptist
Week of November 12, 2017 - Creekside Baptist Church
Week of November 19, 2017 - Davidson Baptist Church
Week of November 26, 2017 - Dunson Baptist Church

Please pray for God to bless these churches and meet their needs.

Announcements

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - October 31 is 'Trunk or Treat' from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. There will be cake walks, hot dogs, chips, pickles, popcorn, and drinks for sale. Come enjoy a safe night of fun for everyone. • Brotherhood meets every second Saturday of the month at 8 am. • God's Helping Hands meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. All ladies are invited to attend. • Lighthouse Keepers meet the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. This ministry is open to all senior adults of the church age 55 or older. All these ministries meet in the JC McMillian Life Center. • Follow Baptist Tabernacle on social media:

- Facebook: Baptist Tabernacle LaGrange
- Twitter: Baptist Tab and jimmymcm1
- Website: www.baptisttabernacle.ws

Listen to us live on Sunday at 10:50 am on WCJM and Facebook and on Tuesday at 6:00pm 'Straight from the Bible' on WOAK 90.9. Baptist Tabernacle's ministry is to get the word of God to a lost and dying world. Please pray for our church.

Davidson - would love for you to join them for these activities scheduled in October:

- On October 7 at 5 pm, there will be a "Spaghetti Supper". Donations will be accepted for Robbie Longshore's battle with cancer. Following the meal, there will be praises and songs with Kevin Dunn and *Nothing but Grace*.
- On October 29, *Heaven Seekers* will be joining them for the 5th Sunday night singing.

Highland - The annual "Trunk and Treats" will be held on October 31. Treats will be given to children from decorated trunks of cars lining the parking lot. Bible tracts will be given out to everyone who attends. They are expecting a large number of children to participate in this fun event.

- The choir has begun practice on a Christmas Cantata to be presented during Morning Worship Service on December 17.

Lakeview - Homecoming will be October 8. Sunday School will be held at 10 am as usual. Special music and then preaching by Rev. Randall Hodge will take place at 11 am. A covered-dish luncheon will be held following the morning services. All members, former members, family, and friends are invited to join in the celebrations.

New Hope (LaGrange) - On Oct. 1 and Oct. 15, the Youth will hand out flyers for the 808 Revival. • On October 2 at 6 pm, the Sisters of Hope will meet in the Family Life Building for planning and fellowship. • October 6 & 7, the Youth will visit Joshua's Dream Ranch in Blairsville, GA. • Homecoming will be held on October 15. Sunday School will meet at 10 am. Worship service will begin at 10:30 am followed by dinner in the Family Life Building. • The Trunk or Treat / Fall Festival will be held on October 25.

Teaver Road - Awana times: Dinner from 6:00-6:30 pm and Classes from 6:30-8:00 pm. • The youth are selling Roger's BBQ tickets to fund renovation of the youth room. Contact Scott Morris at 706-402-6546 or call the church office at 706-882-5774 to purchase tickets or get more information.

- The Acts 1:8 missions team will meet on October 16 at 6 pm.
- Brotherhood will meet on October 14 at 8 am. Following breakfast, they will have a work day and install security cameras. • The annual Fall Festival will be October 25 beginning with games and a hotdog dinner at 6:00 pm. Trunk-or-Treat will follow at approximately 7:30 pm. • There will be a tailgating event for LaGrange High School on October 6 and for Troup High School on October 27 as a part of efforts to reach the community. • Sunday morning worship services are live on Facebook. All videos are available on the Teaver Road Baptist Church Facebook page.

Wehadkee - Church and Sunday School have been awesome! If you are looking for a church, Wehadkee Baptist will welcome all. "God Bless"

Announcements (continued)

Annual Meeting Voting Members

Each church in the association is entitled to voting members at the annual meeting per the following formula:

1. The pastor is automatically a messenger.
2. Four duly elected messengers for total church membership up to 100 people.
3. One additional messenger for every 50 members over the first 100.
4. No church can have more than 10 messengers.

Examples:

Church Membership	# Messengers including Pastor
1 - 149	5
150 - 199	6
200 - 249	7
250 - 299	8
300 - 349	9
350 or more	10

Annual Meeting of the Troup Baptist Association Monday, October 16

Singing by the Kenneth Cole Trio at 6:00 PM
Annual Meeting begins at 6:30 PM
Special Speaker: Rev. Adam Camp

Location: Troup Baptist Association
1301 Washington Street, LaGrange GA 30240

No Fellowship Meal prior to the meeting

Hope's Harvest 2017

Locally Grown / Lovingly Served

Thursday, October 19

Farm-style Dinner
Tickets: \$58

An unforgettable meal for an unforgettable cause

Appetizers & Silent Auction 6 pm
Dinner & Stories of Amazing Grace
Live Entertainment

Three Oaks Barn
197 Burgess Road, LaGrange, GA 30241

Proceeds benefit Hope Harbor Ministries
www.hopeharborga.com

50th Anniversary Celebration Rosemont Baptist Church Sunday, October 15, 2017

Brunch Reception at 9:30 am
in the Fellowship Hall
Outdoor Service at 10:30 am
(weather permitting)

Everyone is invited to help us celebrate this special occasion!

Hogansville Power Crusade A Night of Worship & Inspiration Uniting our Community in Christ

Live Music: Unbroken, 808, Jordan Wray
Spoken Word (poetry): Lauren Gaddy
Speakers: TJ Boyd, David Wilson, & Greg Morris

Saturday, October 28
Free Admission 4:00 pm - 11:00 pm

McGhee Ballfield on Church Street
Presented by: First Baptist Church - Hogansville
(706) 957-6258
WWW.POWERCRUSADE.COM

7th Annual Max New Choir & Hymn Sing

October 29, 5:00 PM

Unity Baptist Church
715 South Greenwood Street
LaGrange, Georgia 30240

All churches are invited to bring their choir or ensemble as we join together for a great time of worship in memory and honor of the ministry of Bro. Max New.

**Please call Unity Baptist Church (706) 882-7714
by Oct 22 if your church would like to participate.**



**Happy Birthday
November**



- 2 Rev. Jerome Hicks
- 15 Bro. Terry Gray, The Church on the Rock
- 16 Rev. Steve Sexton, Bethel

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 2 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia Frank Sledge
- 5 Rediscovering Sunday School @ TBA Sanctuary 6:30 pm
- 8 Pastor Appreciation Day
- 9 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia
- 9 Leadership Mentoring Group III @ TBA 6:30 pm
- 16 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia
- 16 The Annual Meeting @ TBA Sanctuary 6:00 pm
- 19 Leadership Mentoring Group I @ TBA 10:30 am
- 19 Leadership Mentoring Group II @ TBA 6:30 pm
- 23 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia
- 29 Annual Max New Choir Sing @ Unity Baptist 5:30 - 8:30 pm
- 30 Pastors' Prayer Fellowship New Macedonia

Faith Bible Institute meets at association office on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm



Happy Birthday October



- 2 Rev. S. T. Janney
- 8 Rev. Kevin Stringham, Fountain
- 11 Rev. Larry Prestridge
- 14 Rev. Anthony Criswell, First Baptist on the Square
- 17 Dr. Mike Brandenburg
- 20 Rev. Kenneth Cole, Dunson
- 26 Rev. Marion Hammond
- 31 Rev. Clifford Anderson

Welcome Fall!

On The Lighter Side:

A policeman couldn't believe his eyes when he saw a woman drive past him on the freeway, busily knitting. Quickly he pulled alongside the vehicle, rolled down his window and shouted, "Pull over!"
"No," the woman yelled back cheerfully. "Socks!"

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