

God gives grace & power for each new season.



In light of the end of another school year and moving toward the close of many of our church ministries for the year as we head into summer, I have been reminded in scripture of God's provision for the seasons in life.

I'm encouraged to think that God is not taken aback by the end of a season in my life because He's already THERE – no matter where there might be for me. The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 139:7-10:

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

I'm also encouraged to read that when Jesus was about to return to the Father, He told His disciples to wait in the upper room for the Holy Spirit to come upon them. As He was closing His "season" with them here on earth, He was ahead of them and empowering them for their next season. As I look through scripture, I see God doing this repeatedly. It exemplifies His promise to always be with us and never leave or forsake us.

It's easy to see the seasons of life as you look back over the years. But it's not always easy to recognize the changes as they are occurring. That's because there are different kinds of seasons in our life. Some are planned, and others are unplanned, but both cause us to need a special measure of God's grace and presence to help us keep going.

A season that comes at its appropriate time is like the end of a school year, graduation, a wedding, or retirement. Like spring, summer, winter, and fall, these seasons arrive as they should at the time that they should. While we are caught up in the plans, preparations, and celebrations, the change happens, and we miss the full weight of it in the moment. Many times, we don't truly realize it all until it's over. Then, in what seems like a split-second, our little ones are grown, and are soon gone from our nest and to their next season in life. That's when I realized how short that particular season had been and how wonderfully sweet those times of cackling laughter, sniffly noses, and warm snuggles from my kids.

On the other hand, some seasons arrive unexpectedly and burst on the scene like a bull in a china shop. The sudden sickness or death of a loved one or special friend, a life-altering injury, job loss, or financial crisis. These seasons spring on us like a carefully set trap from out of nowhere and drive us into immediate dissonance with life. We are hurt, perplexed, and driven to our knees in prayer. These seasons of life are so difficult.

No matter which season you are facing, remember that God is not taken by surprise by the change. He is HERE with you right now to give grace and power. He will be with you THROUGH this season of change and will be with you THERE when it's over.

I shared with our college students at a commissioning service this week that in times of change in the Bible, God wanted His people to have faith in His PRESENCE more than their accomplishments or abilities. God said to Joshua as his seasons changed:

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9

You are either in a season of change or headed for one. So, hang on, "for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Isaiah wrote these particular words by inspiration of God and they have helped me through my years of life and ministry:

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." Isaiah 43:2-3a

Love and Blessings!

Bro. Andy







**June 22-28** 

125-150 youth and leaders will arrive in Lagrange to work in our community repairing and remodeling homes.

We need you to help us host them. If your church or small group would like to host a team (12-14 people) that week, please contact me today. They will worship with you on Sunday and you will provide lunch for them that day and a sack lunch for them each day at their work site. Help us, help them! Thanks!

## **MINISTRY NEWS**

God is doing some exciting things around the TBA! I have been so blessed to see the partnerships in services, ministries, and revivals among the TBA. We are Better Together and y'all are proving that to be true. We've still got a long way to go but we are moving on up!

I was privileged this month to worship and preach at Western Heights (Pastor Jason Jones) the Sunday after Easter. It was great to

be back where my ministry started in 1987 as Minister of Music and Youth.



Sunday, April 14, I enjoyed worshipping with the church at Bethel Baptist (Pastor Chris Hendricks) in their new building. They have done a remarkable job recovering after last year's tornado destroyed their building. They have

worked so hard and raised a beautiful building from the rubble. Praise the Lord for His hand and their commitment to the task. A group from Shoal Creek Baptist Church in North Georgia was there to worship as well. It was a wonderful day of praise and a great message from Pastor Chris.

### BETHEL BAPTIST, West Point









Steve Smith, Pastor Chris, Joe Simmons

Group from Shoal Creek (White County)

Sunday, April 21, I was able to be back at Franklin Road Baptist (Pastor Trace Lasher) to present a beautiful and sweet blanket made by Beverly Tarleton, from T-shirts we sold during Alyssa Shirey's battle with cancer. My sweet buddy, Alyssa, would have turned 20-years-old this month and we love and miss her. Pictured with me are Melissa, Charlie, and Shawn Shirey.







Several "end-of-the-year" events took place for the BCM. We had a night of worship and fellowship on the Residential Quad with special help cooking burgers and hot dogs from Chris and Brittany Walker (Rosemont). Bro. Chris also brought a great message after the BCM Praise Band led over 100 students in worship. It was a great success!





# WMU SPRING LUNCHEON

April 20 was our annual WMU Luncheon and it was a special time with great attendance & fellowship, food, information, music, and prizes. Special thanks to Mrs. Judy King and her team from Lakeview Baptist for putting this together and serving so well. Thanks to Grace Baptist for hosting us in their fellowship building. And thanks to Angela Maddux for all of her work in coordinating everything.

We were challenged from our own Pam Murphy (Rosemont) to pray for and participate in the Reading Program here in Troup County that works with  $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$  Graders. Anyone can volunteer to read with the children. She also told us about Camp Rockridge and Camp Pinnacle.

After a great lunch from Sloppy Pig, our main speaker was Keri Perkins from Carrollton and the GBMB. She challenged us to work with our schools as well and told us about the overall plan by MISSION GEORGIA called READ GEORGIA. Following her presentation, we enjoyed a few songs from Pastor Ken Cole (Dunson) to close out the program.

Every church should make plans to be a part of this special time next spring and keep us updated on what your WMU/Baptist Women's group is doing.



BCM students enjoyed a tour at the Biblical History Museum on Saturday, April 13. The museum was nice to give us a great discount and the tour was amazing. If you haven't been to this jewel in our own backyard, you need to go!









#### Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) -

The Awana kids had their annual derby car race. They look forward to this each year. (photo at right)

• BTC has a blood drive scheduled for Friday, May 17 from 2 - 7 p.m. You can sign up online at redcross.org.

BTC is located at 849 S Davis Rd, LaGrange, GA 30241





• A group of senior adults (above) from Baptist Tabernacle attended a Christian conference, the Senior Homecoming Retreat at Epworth By The Sea at St. Simons Island. They enjoyed great music, and preaching, as well as each other's fellowship.

**Creekside** - April was a good month at Creekside. They welcomed two new members! "Praise the Lord!"

- The Sisterhood met on April 1 and enjoyed a meal of finger foods. They also had a great time playing games and fellowshipping with one another. The meeting was hosted by Irene and Becca Wiesner.
- Some of their ladies attended the WMU Spring Luncheon. They enjoyed the great meal served by the ladies of Grace Baptist. The special music by Kenneth Cole was great. The speakers were very interesting. "We always enjoy attending this event."
- The Sisterhood will meet on May 6 at 6:00 pm. This month's meeting will be hosted by Janet Geter and Mary Abbott and will be a luau theme.
- On May 18 at 6:00 pm, JNC Promotions will be hosting the *Kingsmen* at the Laddie Yates Pavilion. Daniel Ashmore will be singing also. "Make plans to attend; All are welcome."
- On Saturday, June 1, Creekside will be hosting a Blue Grass Gospel singing. The event starts at 10:00 am until. Food trucks will be available. More info to come.

**Dunson** - Mary James is doing a free concert for Dunson on May 15 at 6 pm. This is a great opportunity to hear and meet Mary James in person. Pastors, bring your entire Wednesday night congregation over and enjoy some great singing, testimony and fellowship. If your church does not have Wednesday night service come on over and receive a blessing! See Announcement page for more.

**Dunson (continued)** - Pam Murphy spoke at the Sunday night informal service concerning Camp Rockridge. Dunson's WMU is sponsoring one child for camp and possibly two. "We are so excited to be a part of this mission and make a change in a young person's life."

- Dunson partnered with East LaGrange Baptist and Second Baptist in REVIVAL on April 28-30. The preachers were Bro. Robert Burnett, Bro. Allen Smith, and Bro. Kenneth Cole. A combination of church choirs sang each night.
- "Dunson Overcomers" participated in the annual Relay for Life on Friday, April 26.
- Ms. Faye Buck celebrated her 90th birthday in the fellowship hall on April 7. "We love Ms. Faye and thank God for sending her and her daughter, Jaye Copeland, to be such an active part of Dunson Baptist Church." (photo at right)







• Dunson had ten people to attend the WMU Spring Luncheon which was hosted by Grace Baptist Church and sponsored by Troup Baptist Association. It was a wonderful event and, of course, we always love getting to hear our Pastor Kenneth Cole sing. (photos above)

**FBC Hogansville (FBCH)** - The Prime Timers enjoyed a fun day at Zoo Atlanta on Saturday, March 23. The Zoo is a delightful destination for all ages, and the animals showed themselves to their best advantage. "Our grateful thanks to our bus driver, Jim Call, who got us there and back safely and

ensured that we could have a wonderful outing." Some members of this group also enjoyed lunch at Golden Corral in Newnan for the April adventure.



**FBC Hogansville (FBCH) continued** - There was an Easter Egg Hunt at the home of Mrs. Alyson McGhee on Sunday afternoon, March 24. Nineteen young people participated in the event. The Youth Group did a photo scavenger hunt, and the younger children searched for Easter eggs. It was a fun afternoon with adventure, snacks, and Christian fellowship. Everyone had a good time. Thank you, Mrs. Alyson, and all your helpers, for hosting this event.

- Easter morning began with a Sunrise Service which was followed by Sunday School and the Morning Service. The choir presented special music which complimented the message delivered by Pastor Greg. "It was a wonderful day to praise the Risen Lord."
- April brought big news as the church initiated two morning services, 9 AM and 11 AM, with Sunday School at 10 AM. This is an exciting step to encourage growth. "We look forward to seeing the impact of new opportunities."
- On April 6, a group from FBCH enjoyed sharing Jesus and inviting people to the Unity Baptist Church Block Party on April 13 and Revival which began on April 14. "What a joy to join together in the Lord's work."
- On Sunday, April 7, everyone rejoiced with Robert Blanks in his re-dedication by baptism.
- FBCH celebrated 156 years of worship at this location on Homecoming Day, April 28! The service began at 10:30 AM with special music from His Place. Pastor Greg delivered the message which was followed by a Fellowship meal. Past and current members and visitors joined together to relive old memories and explore new opportunities.
- The Celebrate Recovery Car & Motorcycle Show was held on April 27. Trophies were awarded, and there was food, music, and prizes. The Show benefited Celebrate Recovery which is such a positive influence locally as well as in the surrounding area.





FBCH - Sam Tomlin at the Easter egg hunt. (above left)
Easter Sunrise Service (above right)
FBCH members working with Unity Baptist (below)



#### First Baptist Church on the Square -

- First Baptist Child Development Center is hiring! Part-time and full-time positions are available. If interested, please email brittany@fbclagrange.org for more information.
- Join us at FBC on the square for VBS this summer! Kids will discover that God's truth never changes, everyone needs Jesus, and learn to speak the truth in love. Adventure awaits each day as kids explore tide pools, spot orcas, fly kites, and watch the mighty waves crash up against the immovable Breaker Rock!

VBS is a FREE event for the community.
VBS is for Children who have completed Preschool through completed 5th grade.
(MUST be 4 years old by September 1, 2023)
To register, please go to fbclagrange.org/vbs



**Grace Baptist** - served 160 people with free food in April. Free food is available every 3rd Saturday. The drive through starts at 10 am in the parking lot.

- The Clothes Closet helps anyone in need.
- Pastor Donnie Benefield's 75th birthday was celebrated after the evening service on April 7.
- Ladies of Grace painted flower pots for shut-ins and will have real flowers planted in them.
- RU Recovery #1078 was at Southbend Park for Family Expo. Reformer's Unanimous meets every Friday at 7 pm.
- Visit website for more info: http://www.gbclagrange.com/





Grace L-R: Pastor Donnie Benefield's Birthday Celebration and Ladies of Grace painting flower pots



Grace: RU Recovery Family Expo at SouthBend Park

**Highland** - is hosting Ivan Parker in concert Friday, June 14 at 6:30 pm. A love offering will be taken. For more info call 706-637-4217. Highland Baptist Church is located at 409 Askew Ave in Hogansville, GA (see back page for more)

**Lakeview -** Breakfast is served every Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall at 9 am.

- A large group of Lakeview ladies attend the WMU Spring Luncheon held at Grace Baptist Church on April 20. Judy King from Lakeview is the WMU leader for Troup Baptist Association and always puts a lot of time and work into the planning for the luncheon.
- On Sunday, April 14, Lakeview received two new members by letter- Jon "Pat" and Kathey Deming.
- April Fellowship Dinner was April 24 and a salad meal was enjoyed by all.
- Sunday and Wednesday night messages are posted on Lakeview's Facebook page.



 Annie Armstrong Easter offering was collected on Easter Sunday morning.
 Thanks to the ladies who provided very special Easter music.

Lakeview Choir on Easter Sunday singing *Ten Thousand Angels*, acapella. Members shown are left Sherry Tankersley, Jill Keener, standing in front of Jill is Maggie Keener, and on far right is Carolyn Jones. In the lower left corner is Keeton Kenner.

**Mountville (MBC)** - Mountville is growing by leaps and bounds! "The Lord is truly at work in our church. We welcomed 3 new families in April by letter."

• The MBC Ladies enjoyed the Ladies Event at First Baptist Church on Thursday, March 7. It was a wonderful time of worship with many ladies from our community! (Photo at right)





Mountville's Easter Cross (above) And Easter Egg Hunts at right



**Mountville (MBC) continued -** The MBC Men's group is growing fast!! They meet every other Thursday for bible study and fellowship.

- The MBC families enjoyed an Easter egg hunt/cookout at the home of Wesley and Shannon Shelton on Saturday, March 23. The kids also enjoyed a resurrection egg hunt on Wednesday, March 27.
- A Good Friday service was held on Friday, March 29. A great time of worship and communion was held as we remembered what Jesus did for us!! A beautiful Easter service was enjoyed by all as we celebrated our risen Savior!
- The family life building is progressing nicely! They hope to be in the building by May! Please continue to pray for them as they continue to grow and follow God's plan! Mountville will celebrate their 2024 Graduates on Sunday, May 5. Their graduates are: Chloe Costley, Kaitlyn Walker, Billy Hamilton, Gabby Butler, Gracie Horton, and Jared Alfaro. "We are soooooo proud of them!!!"



At right, progress is being made on Family Life bldg.

Greenville, GA 30222

Open Range Cowboy Church - Beginning in May of this year, Open Range Cowboy Church began praying and started raising money for a new roof. After a night of praying, two days later, Jason Humphries of Advantage Roofing and Remodeling stopped by the church and told Pastor Mike Reeves that God had led him to donate the entire roof to the church. "GOD DID IT! God is in the miracle-working Business! On May 19, we will dedicate the roof to the Lord and I'll be shouting it from the Rooftop (literally)."



ur lawn chairs

Pine View - is pleased to introduce "Forgiven", a singing quartet. Members are Pastor Joel Scott and his lovely wife Misti, and Deacon Joel Richardson, and his lovely wife Kerrie. They will be spreading the news of the Gospel through song. Their first appointment was on April 22 at the Beech Springs Baptist Church Revival in Pine Mountain, Georgia. "We got a little taste of their talent the Sunday before and we are excited to see where God leads them."

- PineView held a Revival March 20-24 and was very blessed to have Brother James Clark deliver a powerful message each night. "If you didn't feel the Holy Spirit during those five nights you'll need to check your pulse!"
- An Easter Egg Hunt was held on March 30 and we were delighted that so many youngsters joined us for games, popcorn, and snow cones.
- Easter Sunday Sunrise service was very beautiful, and a lovely sunrise was enjoyed by all, along with special words by Associate Pastor Daryl Yarbrough. Sunrise service was followed by a delicious fellowship breakfast. The "Lord's Supper" was observed Easter Sunday morning and Pastor

Joel Scott delivered an inspiring Easter message.

• Pine View ladies enjoyed a fellowship brunch at Cracker Barrel on April 20 then they visited the West Georgia Hospice and filled the basket with all kinds of goodies. (photo at right)



• Pine View is hosting a viewing of "The Chosen" Season 4 and invites anyone interested to join them. The dates are May 3, 10, 24, and 31 at 7 pm. There is no charge. "Please join us for popcorn and a great series. We hope to see you." Pine View is located at 2668 Whitesville Rd, LaGrange.

**Roper Heights** - On Sunday, March 24, Roper Heights had Spring Fling. It was Pastor Eric Rice and Nikki's birthday. "We love them so much." (photos below)





### 2024 Georgia Statewide Bible Reading

On July 14 at 7:14 am, every county in the state of Georgia will be holding the 6th Annual Statewide Bible Reading at county courthouses. Troup Co has been assigned ACTS 9-13.

"If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and I will forgive their sin and I will heal their land."

2 Chron. 7:14

Reeds Chapel (RCBC) - The ladies of the church hosted a baby shower for Jessica Walls who is preparing to welcome baby Josie in a few weeks.

• The men enjoyed a skeet shoot at the home of Chris and Robin Copeland.















- Everyone enjoyed our annual Annie Armstrong mission lunch prepared by WMU. Donations were collected for North American missionaries.
- The annual Resurrection Rally/Flashlight Egg Hunt was March 29 at 6:30 pm. Everyone had a great time!
- The RCBC worship team provided music for revival services at Huguley Nazarene Church.
- Plans are being made for VBS! Kids will learn about how much God loves them, by exploring the jungle of Gospeltopia and meeting some of the animals that live there. Save the date for VBS! June 10-14, 6:00-8:30 pm.

**Shoal Creek** - May IMPACT Worship Service will be May 19 at 6 pm. Shoal Creek Baptist Church is located at 1032 Youngs Mill Road in LaGrange. See more info on Announcements page.

• VBS will be Sunday, June 9 to Wednesday, June 12. Time is from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. See info below:



GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS

When: Sunday, June 9th - Wednesday, June 12
Where: Shoal Creek Baptist Church
1032 Youngs Mill Road, LaGrange, GA 30241
Time: 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Dinner Will Be Served

Please Plan To Join Us, And Bring A Friend!



### Wehadkee - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



We wish each and every mother a blessed MOTHER'S DAY

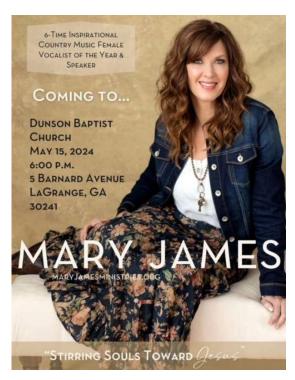
Proverbs 31:26 "She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."

Proverbs 31:31 "Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

Isaiah 66:13 "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

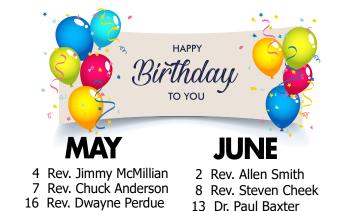
### **Announcements**



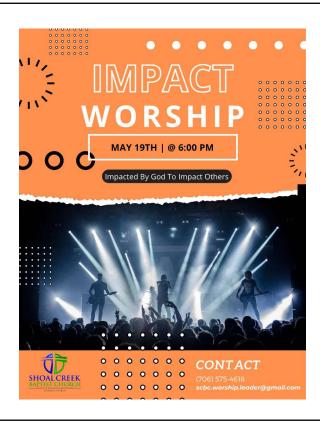


# On The Lighter Side

An old nun, who was living in a convent next to a construction site, noticed the coarse language of the workers and decided to spend some time with them to correct their ways. And so, she decided she would take her lunch and sit with the workers. She put her sandwich in a brown paper bag and walked to the spot where the men were eating. Sporting a big smile, she walked up to the group and asked: "Do any of you men know Jesus Christ?" They shook their heads and looked at each other, very confused. One of the workers looked up into the steelworks and yelled out, "Anybody up there know Jesus Christ?" One of the steelworkers yelled down. "Why?" The worker yelled back, "His Mom is here with his lunch."



- 18 Rev. Terry Prestridge
- 24 Rev. Anthony Hovey
- 25 Rev. Cleve Moore
- 26 Rev. Randy Gilbert
- 28 Rev. Jim Butler
- 14 Rev. Robert Burnett
- 15 Rev. Ellis Freeman
- 29 Rev. Tommy Jeter
- 30 Rev. Edmond Coffev



### **Association - Church Prayer List**

For **May 2024**, please pray for the following churches:

Week of May 5, 2024 - Grace Baptist Week of May 12, 2024 - Gray Hill Baptist Week of May 19, 2024 - Highland Baptist Week of May 26, 2024 - Hillcrest Baptist

For **June 2024**, please pray for the following churches:

Week of June 2, 2024 - Hilyer Baptist
Week of June 9, 2024 - Hope Fellowship Hogansville
Week of June 16, 2024 - Lakeview Baptist
Week of June 23, 2024 - Long Cane Baptist
Week of June 30, 2024 - Mountville Baptist

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



Troup Baptist Association P.O. Box 550 LaGrange, Georgia 30241

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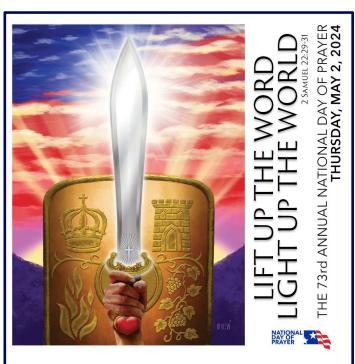


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Ms. Dottie Henson, Treasurer Mrs. Stephanie Williams, Clerk

## **Online Only**



### 2024 National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 2 12:15 - 12:45 pm Biblical History Center 130 Gordon Commercial Dr, LaGrange, GA 30240



Flat Shoals Salem Road - Will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, May 5th. Rev. Andy Buchanan is scheduled to preach that morning. Pastor Randy Warren invites you and all your friends and family to come and join them. They will have a covered dish lunch after service. "Please come and celebrate our 195th birthday with us."



## **Reeds Chapel** (Correction)

**Reeds Chapel (RCBC) - •** WMU held their monthly meeting at Chicken Salad Chick. Tandie Taylor shared a devotion on circumstances that we allow to hinder us from seeking God.

- RCBC is excited to welcome 6 new members to their family. They also praise the Lord for 3 baptisms.
- RCBC provided a meal for the BCM students at LaGrange College.
- WMU had a Cinco de Mayo fundraiser lunch. Everyone enjoyed tacos with all the fixings and desserts.
- Reeds Chapel had a bake sale at Lagrange Internal Medicine. Proceeds will go towards the mission team's upcoming trip to Honduras.
- The men have a breakfast fellowship the first Saturday of each month at 8 AM. All men are invited to join them.
- Reeds Chapel had their annual egg hunt and worship rally. Jacob Walker shared an awesome message. Music was provided by the RCBC worship team. The younger kids enjoyed an earlier hunt while the older kids had fun finding eggs in the dark with flashlights.
- •Several upcoming events:

We look forward to celebrating our 6 graduates on May 19. Our annual Feed the Community event will be May 18 in downtown West Point.

VBS is June 10-14. See our Facebook page for more info and to register your kids.















Above: Reeds Chapel had their annual egg hunt and worship rally. Jacob Walker shared an awesome message. Music was provided by the RCBC worship team.

The younger kids enjoyed an earlier hunt while the older kids had fun finding eggs in the dark with flashlights.