

The Messenger



AUGUST 2024

VOLUME 59

ISSUE 8

*In Your Presence
There is fullness
of Joy!*

If you put yourself in the right place, good things will happen. It's a principle that I've been taught all my life in athletics by coaches in baseball, basketball, and football. I remember my PeeWee football coach, Otis McGee, telling me to "stay at home" because I would often wander out of position because of the trickery of the other teams' play. I remember my high school basketball coach yelling at us to "move without the ball" and get in position so we could get the pass and score as the play unfolded. And I remember Coach Phil Williamson telling me to back up third base or home plate as a LaGrange College pitcher who was pretty good at giving up a lot of runs. Mine was a short but fun career, but I digress.

I was reminded of the principle recently in my study on Andrew the Disciple. Andrew put himself in the right place and received the blessing of it. He was a seeker and attached himself first to John the Baptist.

As a result, when Jesus came along and John called Him the Lamb of God, Andrew went with Jesus. When Jesus turned and said to him, "What are you seeking?" Andrew replied in a sense, "YOU." And He followed Jesus from that point on in his life. Andrew made a habit of seeking the Lord. He put himself in the right places to encounter the Messiah and then he obediently followed Jesus. I was reminded, once again, of the necessity to seek the Lord through His Word, prayer, and worship so that I can put myself in the place to hear from Him, experience His life-giving presence, and ultimately follow Him in my life. Psalm 16:11 says,

"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

I love that verse! Like other verses that I have memorized over the years, it has been a faithful companion to remind me to keep seeking, to keep praying, and to keep worshipping! Look at the benefits in that verse:

First, *the path of life will be made known to you.* How often do you wonder about the direction and trajectory of your life? The answers you are seeking are found as you

draw near to Him.

Second, *there is fullness of joy.* Ultimately, in Heaven, believers will experience all the joy possible. But even while here in this broken world, even when things are not going our way and we aren't necessarily "happy," we can have JOY because of the presence of Christ in our life.

Last, *at His right hand are pleasures forevermore.* This is another reference to our ultimate home in Heaven, but also a reminder that when we live in God's presence and under His authority, we have everything we need. Even death posed no threat to King David, because he enjoyed great blessing and fellowship with the Lord

My encouragement for you this month is to **put yourself in the presence of God** as often as possible! Saturate your mind with His Word. "Be still" in His presence and enjoy fellowship with Him through prayer. Run to worship Him together with God's people. Lift your voice and sing His praises!

By doing so, you'll be ready to hear Him, obey Him, and enjoy Him forevermore!

You are loved!

Bro. Andy



BCM 2024 LAGRANGE COLLEGE

We're excited about a new "Baptist Collegiate Ministry" (BCM) year!

This year there is a lot of energy and momentum to build on the great things God did last year and see more students come to Christ!

Here's how you can help:

- 1 - **PRAY** for the team, the campus, and for sensitivity to the Gospel
- 2 - **SUPPORT** our efforts by providing snacks for a meeting
- 3 - **GIVE** to help us reach the campus with the Gospel

24/25 BCM LEADERSHIP TEAM



Meredith, President



Madelyn



Taylor



Dylan B



K.J.

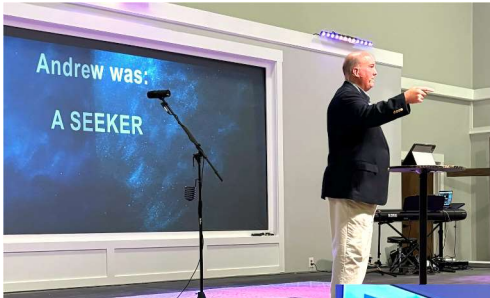


Dylan D

MINISTRY NEWS

July is a great month for Kim and me because we celebrate our Anniversary on July 1st. This year was our 35th Anniversary and we enjoyed spending the day together driving on the Blue Ridge Parkway with Kim's parents.

We enjoyed worshipping with the church family at Teaver Road on July 7 and Callaway on July 21. All the services were wonderful times of worship and I shared a message on the Disciple Andrew. Andrew is known as "the bringer" because he brought things to Jesus. He



brought the little boy with the 5 loaves and 2 fish. He brought the Greeks to Jesus when they wanted to see the Lord. And, he brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus in John 1 and Peter became a great tool in the hands of God. I believe Andrew was a catalyst in helping that take place.



Most of the month of July you have been bringing by items for our Georgia Baptist Children's Home TRUCK-LOADING event that culminated last week. If the kids don't have clean clothes this year, it won't be because we didn't provide plenty of detergent. From detergent, to snacks, to paper goods...you all went above and beyond! Also, through gift cards and other financial gifts, we provided so much for our children's homes. Thank you so much.



FALL SEMESTER 2024

In just a couple of weeks our students will begin moving in at LaGrange College and a new semester will begin. Here are some ways you can be a part of taking the Gospel to the college campus here in our town:

IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITIES

FAIR ON THE HILL (Friday, AUG 16, 11am to 1 pm)

Work with us at the BCM table as we get information out about all of our churches and welcome the new students to the Hill. Get us information about your church and bring some candy to give away.

FIRST MEETING (MONDAY, AUG 18, after convocation)

We will be serving Pizza at our first meeting of the semester and sharing Pizza as the students get into the groove as classes begin. Join us as we serve the students and encourage them to BELONG in BCM.

MEET & GREET COOKOUT (Sunday, AUG 25, 6-8pm)

This is a big event for all students and a time for Pastors, Staff, and Collegiate ministry staff to come and meet & mingle with the students to make them aware of all our churches and opportunities to plug in to a church around LaGrange. Make plans to be with us.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

Snacks at Monday Night Meetings

Your church can provide simple snacks for our Monday meetings. The students love fruit and simple snacks like cookies, trail-mix, and the like.

Tuesday "SOUL FOOD" Cafe

This is a large meal provided on specific weeks for 30-40 students. It's a chance for you or your Pastor to give a brief devotional and provide a home-cooked meal for the students. Here are a couple of dates we have already booked for you to choose from:

Tuesday, August 27

Tuesday, October 22

There are several other days available. Please call me and we will find one that will work for you. 706-884-1975

Above all else, please pray for our Leadership Team and for the students to be open to the Gospel and open to discipleship and missions as we enter this new year.

Church News & Announcements

Baptist Tabernacle (BTC) - will do their Back-to-School Prayer Walk on August 4th.

- There will be a BBQ fundraiser on September 28th. Tickets will go on sale beginning in August. You can call the church office to purchase tickets.
- VBS was held in July with an amazing outcome of children in attendance. (Picture below of VBS volunteers).



Creekside - On June 30, Creekside celebrated July 4th. The children enjoyed a bouncy house and a water slide. Everyone enjoyed the fireworks.

- The Sisterhood enjoyed a barbecue-themed dinner and games. Nikki McClendon hosted the meeting.
- Creekside had their VBS on July 6th. "Dive Deep into Jesus." They had 15 children in attendance. "Thanks to Nikki McClendon, Irene Wisener, and Becca Wisener for planning VBS and for the hard work that they put into it to make it a success. Also, thanks to the volunteers for giving of their time."
- Some of the congregation went to River of Life to enjoy the singing with the Malyan Hayes family. Presented by JNC promotions.



Above: Scenes from Creekside's VBS on July 6th.

Dunson - celebrated Religious Liberties Sunday with a special patriotic service. Pastor Kenneth Cole and David Edmondson participated in reading scripture at the Government Center for the Georgia Statewide Bible Reading.

- A children's Sunday School challenge was issued for attending five times. These kids will be going to the Atlanta Aquarium this month. Wednesday night children will have a Back to School Bash with the theme of "Keep Your Eye on the Ball" and the children will receive school supplies.
- The Sunday night informal service at 6 pm in the fellowship hall is well attended. "We invite anyone not having Sunday night service to come and join us."

FBC Hogansville (FBCH) - Vacation Bible School was an amazing week. The theme was God's Rock-Solid Truth in a World of Shifting Sands. Around 200 children and adults came each evening to study God's Word. "We were blessed to have 9 young people come to accept Jesus as their Savior and friend." The week was filled with Bible study, music, recreation, and crafts, plus a nutritious meal was served each evening. Family Night on Friday was an opportunity for the children to show their parents and friends what they had been doing all week, and it was followed by an ice cream social. An offering was taken each evening, and Mrs. Melanie Baswell, VBS Director, announced that over \$700 had been collected and would be donated to God's Bread Basket, the food-aid ministry of the Hogansville Ministerial Association. Many thanks to all the attendees and to the staff who worked so hard to make the week a success.

- July 19 was the perfect day for the Youth Group to go tubing in Helen, Ga. They had a wonderful adventure, good weather, and good fellowship. You can see the smiles! Thanks to Youth Director, Monica Johnson for organizing, Jonathan Brown for safe travel, and the other volunteers who contributed to the fun day.
- To help families get ready for the coming school year, FBC offered free clothes at the church on Saturday, July 20 from 12:00 to 4 PM. The event was so successful that all the clothes were given out by 3 PM. It is such a blessing to be able to help the community in such a tangible way.
- Pastor George Bailey of White Oak Grove Baptist Church in Senoia spoke at First Baptist Church Hogansville on Sunday morning, July 21. FBC Pastor Greg Morris and Pastor Bailey have been swapping pulpits on their Church anniversaries for 5 years. The White Oak Grove choir and musicians touched hearts, and Pastor Baily delivered a rousing message that everyone can be a witness for God. The congregation was blessed with the spirit of unity and fellowship and looks forward to continuing a beautiful tradition.
- Three of the young people who professed their faith during VBS were baptized on Sunday, July 14. "It is a privilege to welcome Mara Kirkland, Lily Tyree, and Kolton Whittaker into our church family."



First Baptist Hogansville Vacation Bible School Below: Donation to God's Bread Basket



Church News & Announcements



First Baptist Hogansville: Above Pastor Greg Morris with Pastor George Bailey of White Oak Grove Baptist Church. Above Right: White Oak Grove Baptist Church Choir singing at FBCH. At Right: FBCH Youth tubing in Helen, Georgia down the Chattahoochee River.



Above: Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry of Highland Baptist Church presents a quilt to Mrs. Maria Baker.

Fountain - Fountain Church is hosting an event that is open to all churches. It's a free mother/daughter worship night on Friday, August 9, 6:00-8:30 PM. This is for moms and their daughters in 7th-12th grades. The theme from Psalm 139 is "Not Hidden." Vikki Stringham and her daughter Kate will be teaching through Psalm 139. Katie Firth and her daughter Ella Kate will be leading the worship music. Whitney Humphries and her daughter Oaklie will be sharing testimony of God's goodness through trials. There will be break-out time for moms and daughters to talk through some directed questions and pray together using Psalm 139 as their guide. "We are very excited about offering this time of connection to help moms carry out the mandate of Titus 2 for older women to disciple younger women. We'd love to have moms and daughters from the community join us."

The link to register for the free event is below:
<https://subsplash.com/fountainchurch/lb/ev/+6q4pyb3>
 See back of newsletter for more information.

Grace - served 239 people with free food in July!
 This is available every 3rd Saturday at 9 am at Grace Baptist.
 • Members met at Long Cane Elementary and Middle School for the Prayer Walk on Saturday, July 27 at 9 am.
 • RU Recovery #1078 meets every Friday night at 7:00 pm.
 • Visit website for more info: <http://www.gbclagrange.com/>

Highland - The Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry of Highland Baptist Church in Hogansville, Georgia presented two prayer quilts during the month of July.

On July 8th they presented a quilt to Mr. Randy Bell, photo at right.

On July 14th they presented a quilt to Mrs. Maria Baker.



Lakeview - Breakfast is served in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday morning from 9:15 am to 9:45 am.

- Missions for July included Pastor Lamar Truitt participating in singing for residents at Florence Hand Home, participating in the WMU prayer walk for Troup County Schools and continued support for Troup Baptist Association through regular donations and support for the Christian counseling program.
- Everyone enjoyed the Wednesday night fellowship meal on July 31 with a delicious meal planned by hostess Mary Cobb.

Long Cane - Brotherhood met at Hardley Creek on June 29 for some fishing and fellowship. The men also met at the church to do some tree trimming on July 11.
 • Long Cane welcomed guest preacher Rev. Joey Knight on July 21.

Long Cane Trade Day will be held on September 21 from 8 am until 1 pm. Contact Sharon at dsgeter@me.com to reserve your 10 x 10 spot for just \$10.
 • Each Sunday, Long Cane has Sunday School at 9:45 am, Service at 11 am, and Wednesday night Bible Study at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Mountville(MBC) - welcomed one new member by letter this month!

- The Family Life building is nearing completion! "MBC is so excited and grateful for this wonderful blessing and we can't wait to use it for the Glory of God and to serve our community!" A dedication/open house will be held soon!
- VBS 2024 was amazing! They had an average of 108 each night! Lots of seeds were planted and much fun was had. The kids learned so much about Jesus and that HE is the solid rock on which we stand! The ice cream truck even paid them a visit one night!!
- Mountville MPact enjoyed a beach trip in July! They had a wonderful time of fellowship. They drew closer to the Lord and to each other! "We are so proud of these young people!"

(Continued on next page.)

Church News & Announcements

Mountville(MBC) continued - MBC was honored to help sponsor a precious mission group from Port St. Lucie, FL. They were in LaGrange in June with Mission Serve. They attended our Sunday morning worship on June 23 and then a good home cooked meal was provided to them! We were also able to provide lunch for them each day as they worked at The Habitat for Humanity ReStore. They were such a blessing to us and to our community and we appreciate them so much!!

- MBC will have a Back to School Bash on Sunday, August 11 at Camp Viola right after the morning worship service! Pizza, swimming, and fellowship will be enjoyed by all as we celebrate the start of another school year! We pray for all of our students and schools as we begin a new year!



Above: Mountville VBS
Right: Ice Cream Truck paid a visit to VBS



Below: Mountville sponsored a Mission Serve Team from Port St. Lucie, Florida



Above: Mountville Impact Team enjoyed a beach trip in July.

Pine View - completed their VBS on Saturday, July 20th. They had a great turnout with 27 children in attendance over the 3-day event. "Our amazing staff did a fantastic job with Bible Stories, Games, Crafts, Music, and Meal Prep." The bounce house was scheduled to close out the week, but due to the unsettled weather, it has been rescheduled for August 10th. "We are very hopeful that all the children will be back to join us for lots of fun, and of course, we'll have a fellowship meal to accompany the celebration."

- Sunday, July 21st, Pine View celebrated their Homecoming. They began the service by honoring the staff who gave their all to make VBS successful. They handed out certificates to all the children who attended. Music was led by the quartet "Forgiven" (Joel & Misti Scott and Joel & Kerrie Richardson) who blessed the congregation with song and Brother Joseph Bonner inspired them with a great message. Afterwards, attendees enjoyed an abundant Fellowship meal.
- Pine View Ladies will be traveling up north to Helen, Georgia August 23-25. They will enjoy a great time away, encouraging one another and reveling in God's abundant creation.
- Pine View will continue the Wednesday night Bible Study, watching Season 4 of "The Chosen" and following up with a discussion of the relative scriptural references revealed in the episode.
- Per the Great Commission, Pine View members will continue to go into the community one Saturday a month, according to Matthew 28:19-20, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



Above: Pine View's Vacation Bible School Children & Workers

A CALL TO PRAYER

Monday August 12th
6 pm

OPEN RANGE
Cowboy Church

110 LaGrange Hwy
Greenville Road near Mountville
At the Troup/Meriwether Co. Line

I have called upon thee, for thou wilt hear me,
O God: incline thine ear unto me,
and hear me speech. Psalm 17:6



Church News & Announcements

Roper Heights - Roper Heights kids went to Pine Mountain Liberty Bell Pool on June 29. It rained but the rain did not keep them from having a good time! (photos below)



Second - Second Baptist Church invites all former members to join them for Homecoming on Sunday, August 18, 2024 starting at 10:30 am. Special singers will feature "Until Then" and the guest speaker will be the infamous Andy Buchanan of TBA. "We look forward to seeing you there."

Wehadkee - Invites everyone to their Homecoming and Revival, August 4-7.

Homecoming: August 4th,
Sunday Morning Message will be given by Pastor Nick Pilgrim, followed by a Fellowship Dinner.

Revival: August 5th-7th
Services as follows:
Monday 5th: 6:30 PM, Rev. Andy Buchanan
Tuesday 6th: 6:30 PM, Bro. Jacob Walker
Wednesday 7th: 6:30 PM, Rev. Andy Buchanan

August Birthdays:	August Anniversaries:
15- LeAnn Crowder	06 - Larry & Brenda Jennings
18- Dan Shea	07- Tim & Kim Sams
24- Renate Massey	

Annual Church Report Forms are in the mail!

The Georgia Baptist Mission Board has mailed Annual Church Report Forms to each church. Be on the look-out for these.

There are three ways to complete & return your reports.

1. Churches may complete the paper forms and return them by mail using the stamped and pre-addressed envelope included with the report forms.
2. Churches may submit their reports online via the iGO system. For assistance with user-id and password, call the association office.
3. Churches may also return the completed forms to Angela at the Troup Baptist Association office either in person, by US Mail, or email to angela@troubaptist.org.

In addition to the Annual Church Report, the Troup Baptist Association asks that each church complete the "Other Church Information Form." This assists us in serving you and provides us with information for our Annual Meeting Reports.

These forms will be available for download on our website:
www.troubaptist.org

For more information or questions, please call 706-884-1975

Save the Dates...

Troup Baptist Association - Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 26 at 6:00 PM

Troup Baptist Association - Annual Meeting

Monday, October 21 at 11:00 AM

Both meetings will be held in the Sanctuary portion of the Troup Baptist Association facility.



Above: Grace BC members praying at Long Cane Elementary and Middle School

Announcements



Two of our TBA Churches are offering Grief Share, a support group ministry to those dealing with grief.

Franklin Road Baptist Church: Sundays 5:00 - 6:30 pm
 Begins August 11 through November 17.
 Contact: Jerry Parkerson 706-573-2035
 jerryparkerson@yahoo.com

First Baptist Church on the Square: Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:30 pm
 Meets in the Fellowship Hall
 Contact: Barbara Bowen 770-605-9939
 barbarabowen308@yahoo.com

Franklin Road Baptist Church Arts & Craft Sale

Saturday, October 12 9 am until 2 pm
 Setup will be Friday, October 11 1 until 4 pm.
 Final date to register: September 30.

For information on tables call: Karen 828-342-8315
 Dale 706-443-4674 Beverly 404-325-3493

If you have a friend, relative or fellow church member who does not receive The Messenger, encourage them to call us at 706-884-1975 and have their name added to our mailing list. They may also visit our website www.troubaptist.org/newsletter and go to subscription preferences to add or remove an address.

TBA Churches: If you would like announcements, etc printed in this newsletter, please send an email to angela@troubaptist.org.

On The Lighter Side

A man was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. The plane had a layover in Sacramento. The flight attendant explained there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft, the plane would re-board in one hour. Everyone got off the plane except one man who was blind. Another man had noticed him as he walked by and could tell the man was blind because his seeing-eye dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of him throughout the flight. He could also tell he had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached him, and calling him by name, said, "Keith, we're in Sacramento for an hour, would you like to get off and stretch your legs?" The blind man replied, "No thanks, but maybe my dog would like to stretch his legs." Picture this: All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a seeing-eye dog! The pilot was even wearing sunglasses! People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines! True story... Have a great day and remember... Things aren't always as they appear.



AUGUST

- 5 Rev. Lamar Womack
- 10 Rev. Bernie Pasley
- 10 Rev. Mike Watson
- 13 Rev. Jerry Johnson
- 17 Rev. Frank Abrahamsen
- 21 Rev. Derek Williams
- 22 Rev. Danny Geter
- 23 Rev. Tifton Dobbs
- 27 Rev. Matt Dellinger
- 29 Rev. Billy Allen

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Rev. Michael Reeves
- 4 Rev. Tom Farr
- 20 Rev. Jason Jones
- 29 Rev. Richard King
- 30 Dr. Lamar Truitt
- 30 Rev. Ben Turner

Community-Wide Senior Adult Fellowship

First Baptist Church on the Square (Sanctuary)
 Thursday, October 17, 2024
 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Special Guest Preacher: Dr. Gerald Harris (below left)
 Special Singing by Al Holley (below right)



Association - Church Prayer List

For **August 2024**, please pray for the following churches:
 Week of August 4, 2024 - New Macedonia Missionary Baptist
 Week of August 11, 2024 - Open Range Cowboy Church
 Week of August 18, 2024 - Pine View Baptist
 Week of August 25, 2024 - Praise & Prayer Ministry

For **September 2024**, please pray for the following churches:
 Week of September 1, 2024 - Reeds Chapel Baptist Church
 Week of September 8, 2024 - Rockridge Baptist Assembly
 Week of September 15, 2024 - Roper Heights Baptist Church
 Week of September 22, 2024 - Rosemont Baptist Church
 Week of September 29, 2024 - Second Baptist Church

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

Not HIDDEN

P S A L M 1 3 9

NIGHT OF WORSHIP AND CONNECTION
MOMS AND THEIR DAUGHTERS IN 7TH-12TH GRADES
FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 6:00-8:30 PM
FOUNTAIN CHURCH
107 MALLODY DR. LAGRANDE, GA
FREE REGISTRATION ON THE FOUNTAIN CHURCH APP

MUSIC: KATIE FIRTH AND ELLAKATE FIRTH
TEACHING: VIKKI STRINGHAM AND KATE STRINGHAM



FELLOWSHIP OF
**CHRISTIAN
ATHLETES**

2024 FCA GOLF SCRAMBLE

Callaway Gardens - The Lake View Course
Monday, August 26, 2024 - 8:30am
Four Person Scramble

FAITH BIBLE INSTITUTE TBA—Satellite Campus

Fall Semester 2024

Bible 106 - The Exile and the Restoration of Israel (Ezekiel, Daniel, Ezra, Esther, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah & Malachi)

Bible 216 - New Testament Epistles IV (1-3 John & Revelation)

Theology 216 - Doctrines of Christ and Sin

Classes meet at Mountville Baptist Church
on Sunday Evenings

For more information call the TBA @ 706-884-1975

**All Proceeds
Benefit FCA in
Troup County!!!**



BE A SPONSOR

<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor \$1500	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Sponsor \$600
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Team of Four • One Donated Team for Coaches/Students • Hole Sponsor Sign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Team of Four • Hole Sponsor Sign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Team of Four <input type="checkbox"/> Hole Sponsor \$200

For sponsorship opportunities:
call or email Jonathan Karastury, 706-442-4503 | jkarastury@fca.org

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TROUP BAPTIST Association



706-884-1975 | troupbaptist.org



PRAY FOR OUR SCHOOLS

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