

Pastor's column

Being better



Jacob Brimm

And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24 (CSB)

Click over to the news, turn on

"social" media, pick up the paper, etc. and you will find story after story that can be fairly depressing. In a recent study it was discovered that in this period of time when we can be more connected than ever, people feel more disconnected than ever before! It seems that the more we can, the less we are.

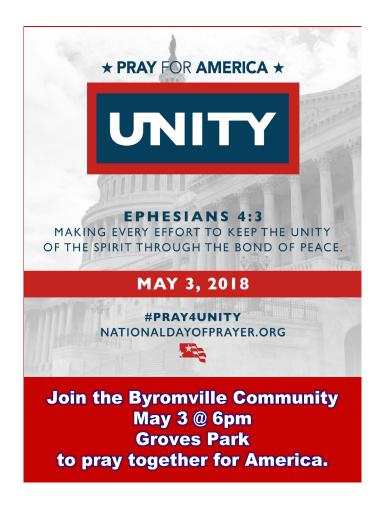
The Word of God tells us that we are to look out for one another, to provoke love and good works, to encourage each other, and to do so regularly. I have come to learn that if God has to tell us to do it, it must be something that is easy to overlook. He tells us to love, so love must be overlooked; and honestly it is not always easy to love, especially when you are not in a loving mood. But love is not a mood, it is a choice, an action, and our ability to fulfill the will of God completely depends on us choosing to love others, not by our power, but by the power of the Holy Spirit flowing through us. It sounds complicated, however I promise that it is not.

When we become children of God, we receive the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is our great helper who strengthens us, empowers us, uplifts us, carries us though hard times, and so much more. We learn in Scripture that it is by the power of the Spirit that mountains can be conquered. We must, however, choose to live by the power of the spirit. And when we choose to live by that power, then in our weakness, the power flows through us to accomplish what we could never do alone. In some cases, that

means to love, to meet together and to stir up love and good works.

In this time of disconnection, of people feeling allalone, the simple kind word, or act of love, can change someone's entire universe. It is amazing what a simple smile can do to a total strange to whom you have never spoke a word, or the kind act of a casual conversation. Sometimes that conversation will amount to a friendship, other times it will amount to the only opportunity for someone to talk about their trials or tribulations. The outcome, the wave of ripples will reach further than you can imagine!

So what can you do this month? It takes intentionality. Living by the power of the spirit is not accidental. Spend a few minutes in prayer each day, stirring up the fire that is the Spirit, and see what happens as that fire spreads. See how being intentional with the power of the Spirit really does make your cup overflow. When the weakness of your day becomes the glory of the Father who shines through your life, and into the life of those around you.



Seasoned Saints still seeking seafood

Our Seasoned Saints will leave May 12 at 3:45 p.m. on their ongoing search for great seafood. This month's destination is Ezell's

Catfish Cabin, 4001 Warm Springs Road, Columbus. Ezell's takes pride in serving the best catfish, shrimp and chicken in Dixie in their family friendly southern style restaurant. If you'd like to enjoy some great seafood (and other food as well) and have fun doing it, call Elaine (433-2505) by May 8 to sign up for the trip.

Graduate Recognition Sunday set for May 20



If you know of anyone graduating this year from kindergarten, high school, college or other educational program, please let Jenn Averill know within the next few days. Our church will be honoring our graduates during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on May 20.





Today there are roughly 13,000 children in the foster care system in Georgia. There are mothers in your community struggling with homelessness and overcoming domestic violence. There are children being pushed into human trafficking daily. Right now there are families and children in need of light during their darkest hour.

Every day at Georgia Baptist Children's Homes, we help children and families who are navigating darkness find their spark through HIS light. In 2017, we helped 1,215 children and their families find a glint of hope through a variety of innovative programs and ministries designed to bring spiritual, emotional, and physical healing.

This is no easy task because these children and families we serve today often come to us without even the slightest glimmer of hope. Instead, they come with heavy emotional and physical scars. Many arrive defiant, traumatized, and angry at the world and everyone in it. There is no light at the end of the tunnel in their eyes. And who can blame them? How would any of us feel if we had been forced to live on the streets, a homeless shelter, in the back of an old car or in just another failed placement through the system?

YOU can make a difference in joining us in igniting hope in the lives of children and families who have walked in darkness. We ask that you make this a matter of prayer in supporting our ministry financially and joining us in shining HIS light of hope on those in need.

Visit http://www.gbchfm.org for more information about Georgia Baptist Children's Homes and Family Ministries, Inc. Special offering envelopes will be available on May 13.



Turkey Creek Festival

Theme: "Friends & Family In The Park
May 5, 2018
Byromville, Georgia

9:00AM Vendors open in Groves Park and along

Main Street

10:00AM Parade led by Grand Marshals BBC Seasoned

Saints

10:30AM Basketball shootout begins at court on

Highway 90

Welcome by Mayor Cheryl Foster

Invocation
National anthem

Remarks from Grand Marshals

11:00AM Entertainment by local talent (Kitchens Girls,

Josh Epps, Hispanic Church choir, and others)

12:00PM Entertainment by Martin Mathis Band

12:30PM Entertainment by Evan Barber and The Dead

Gamblers

1:00PM Entertainment by Dancing Dolls

1:30PM Entertainment by Gospel Stars

Be sure to visit our Seasoned Saints who will be set up on the sidewalk along Main Street selling coffee, sausage biscuits, homemade cakes, other goodies, and soft drinks.

Come and celebrate Byromville. You'll have a great time and probably see some old friends you have not seen in a while.

And if anyone would like to be in the parade, be at our church parking lot by 9:30 a.m. There is no entry fee. Anyone wanting to rent a vendor space, visit www.turkeycreekfestival.com and download the vendor application and submit as per the instructions on the application.



Tickets are \$25/person and \$300 for table sponsors which includes entry for eight people. See Jeanie Brimm (706-414-5703) to purchase tickets.

Associational news

Spring Inspirational Meeting

Morningside Church will host this event on May 21 at 7:00 p.m. Kenny Peters will lead worship, and Randy Mulinax will be the featured speaker.

Singing and cakes to raise money for Camp Houston May 19

Cordele First Church will host a fundraiser for Camp Houston on May 19 at 6:00 p.m. including a GospelSing and cake auction.

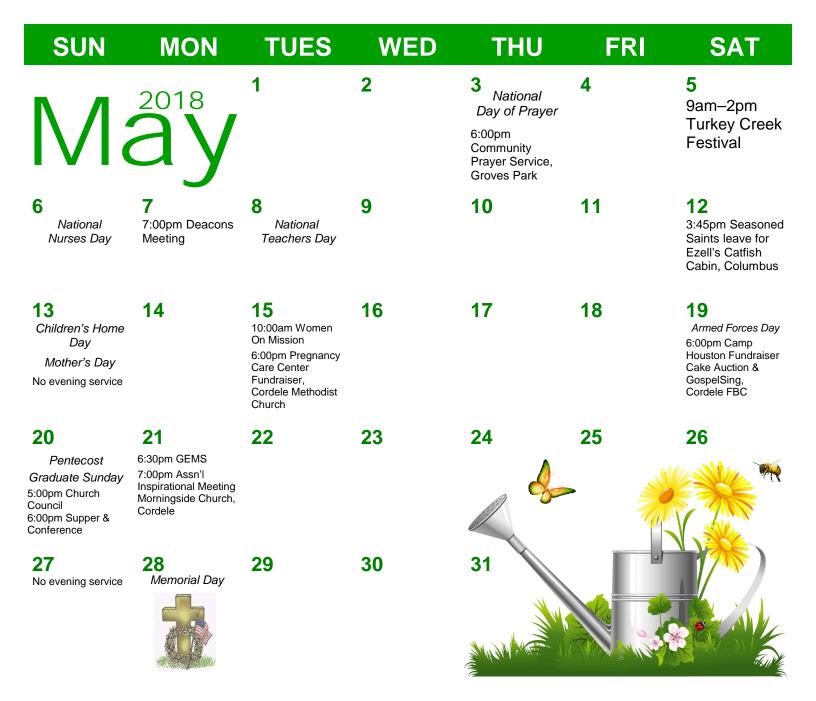
Sign up for children and youth camps this summer

Visit www.houstonbaptist.org to download camper applications for the various summer camps at Camp Houston this year. Camp scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance.

Visit <u>www.houstonbaptist.org</u> or call 229-273-4127 for more information about HBA events.

Page 5





Birthdays

					•) —
5-1	Jimmy Gauthier Glynn Grantham Thad Kitchens Ross Stout	5-10 5-13	Mandy Smith Jason Mathenia Courtney Overton Jimmy R. Hendrix	5-25 5-27 5-28	Conner Gaultney Hailey Gaultney Sarah Averill Brannen Brenna Kirksey
5-4	Tommy Bodrey	5-19	Stacey Bryant	6-1	Cole Thompson
5-5	Sophie Roney	5-20	Mary Greer	6-2	Amy Collier
5-4	Tommy Bodrey		Sonya Thompson		Quint Smith
5-5	Sophie Roney	5-21	Jean Latimer	6-3	Tonya Bodrey
5-6	Lily Diehl		Amanda Trimback	6-4	Joshua Chappell
5-7	Jamie Roberts		Carrie Woodruff		1
5-8	Cooper Blankenship	5-22	Vicki Lamberth		T.A.
	Nikki Gaultney		Austin Langford		
5-9	Cathy Thompson	5-24	Sherylan Payne	Pleas	e pray for these folks

Kay Green

on their birthday.

5-10

Thomas Bodrey

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY	
Sunday School	10AM
Worship	11AM
Worship	
WEDNESDAY	
Youth	. 7PM
Prayer Meeting	. 7PM

Nursery for all services. Children's Church for Sunday 11AM Worship.

	Schedule of Volunteers for May				
Please remember it is up to you to arrange coverage if you are unable to serve on your scheduled day.					
Date	Nursery AM	Children's Church	Deacon of the Week	Offering Bearers	
May 6	Briana/Tricia Kent	Rebekah Bowen Lori Roberts	Joe Kent	Joe Kent Taylor Willingham	
May 13	Jeanie Brimm Kay Green	Jenn/John John Averill	Jimmy Lockerman	Joseph Lamberth Keith Lamberth	
May 20	Mandy/Paula Smith	Alison/Taylor Willingham	Arthur Roney	Steven Lamberth George Massey	
May 27	Jenn/John John Averill	Vicki Lamberth Robin Peavy	Floyd Tucker	Arthur Roney Roger Roney	

March Sunday School Stats

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Senior Adults	4
FBIC	16
CIA	3
Young Adults	3
Youth	0
Older Children	2
Younger Children	3
Older Preschoolers	5
Younger Preschoolers	5
Nursery	3
General Officers/Musicians	5
TOTAL	49

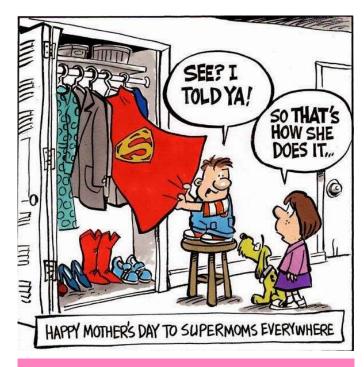
Financial \$ummary

March receipts	March	receipts
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General offerings	\$ 7,385.00
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	1,510.00
Special-Bus Fund	30.00
Special-Gideons	1,100.00
Special-MailBox Club/PCC	50.20
Interest on CD	3.83
TOTAL RECEIPTS	10,079.03
March disbursements	
General expenses	7,257.81
Gideons	1,200.00
Vacation Bible School expense	1,015.04
Local missions & benevolence	50.00
Houston Baptist Association	455.10
Cooperative Program	1,183.26
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$11,161.21

YEAR TO DATE SUMMARY

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Receipts	30,313.98	23,897.25	-6,416.73
Expenses	30,313.98	31,353.55	+1,039.57



Nothing is really lost until MOM can't find it.





Blessings is published monthly by Byromville Baptist Church. Send news items and/or comments to Editor Brenda Lockerman at POB 217, Byromville, GA 31007, email to brendalockerman@windstream.net or call 478-433-2791.

Byromville Baptist Church

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