

September 2010

Blessings

A publication of Byromville Baptist Church



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Pastor's column

Costly satisfaction



Andy Blankenship

We are a culture in search of joy and satisfaction and every magazine, commercial and episode of Dr. Phil is proof of this statement. Money, possessions and comfort are the holy trinity of idols in this world and therefore these are the things that humanity spends much of their time, energy and talents trying obtain. The foundational principle

driving this mindset is ease; we want life to be easy and free from trial, tribulation and stress. Sadly this mindset is even reflected within the membership of our own churches. But the million dollar question is this: Did Jesus teach and preach that joy and satisfaction are found this way?

In John's Gospel, Jesus expounded His declaration that He is the vine and we are the branches. "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full" (John 15:11). This text indicates that the joy of the Christian is not in the natural joy of human life. It is a supernatural joy insofar as it has a supernatural source. Joy and satisfaction is the work of Christ within us and what we often see is this comes at a costly price.

At the end of the ninth chapter of Luke we find three different encounters with Christ by men who seemed eager to follow. In surprising fashion, in a way that is counter-cultural, Jesus almost appears to be talking these men out of following Him.

The first one comes and informs Christ that he wishes to follow Him. Jesus responded, "Foxes have hole and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." Basically Jesus was telling this guy that he could expect homelessness following him.

The second man comes and tells Christ that his father had died and that he wanted to go and bury him before following. Jesus said, "Let the dead bury their own

dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

The third guy approaches Jesus and told him that he wanted to go and tell his family good-bye before he followed. "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God" was the response he got.

The point is this: Following Christ is costly! It might cost us our homes and comforts. We might have to give up on family relationships. However, the point in Jesus responses was that following Him is more important, more exciting and more satisfying than anything else imaginable.

So where are we in this? Are we a people seeking joy and satisfaction in earthly ease? Are vines looking to be nourished and sustained by feeding off the ideologies and mindset of this culture (the American Dream)? Or are we the people of God; Christ followers; who are crucifying ourselves daily in order to be fed and satisfied by Jesus? Oh how I pray your satisfaction is costly.

Because He lives,
Andy



**BBC
welcomes
new member
Jennifer
Hughes**

Jenn Hughes joined our church by profession of faith and was baptized on August 22 (see cover).

Jenn is a recent University of Georgia graduate with a marketing degree and is employed with Akin Insurance Agency. She enjoys UGA football, cooking new recipes, going to the movies, babysitting, shopping, hunting, and hanging out with friends and family. Jenn is from Lufkin, Texas, but now makes her home at 639 Steele Road, Vienna.

Changes in Wonderful Wednesdays

Royal Ambassadors (RAs) will replace Children in Action, and Challengers and Acteens will replace the coed youth group on Wonderful Wednesdays beginning this month. Girls in Action (GAs) and Mission Friends will continue as usual.



RAs is a missions organization for boys in grades 1-6, and Challengers is a missions organization for guys in grades 7-12. We are starting off with two RA groups and one Challenger group.

Acteens is a missions organization for girls in grades 7-12, and we now have two groups—a younger (7-9 grade) and older (10-12 grade).

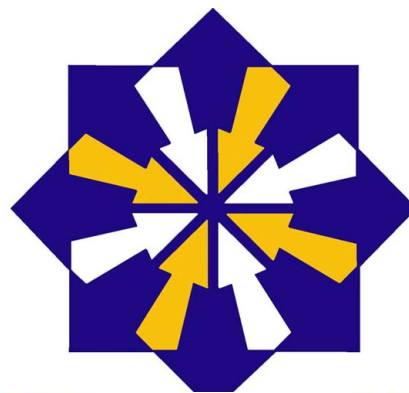


Another significant change in the Wednesday program is supper will be served from 6:00–6:15 p.m. only. Classes will begin at 6:30 p.m. Recreation will be after class until 8:00 p.m. Prayer meeting will continue meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Wonderful Wednesdays continues to be one of the biggest ministries in our church with as many as 60 kids and youth in attendance. More volunteers are needed so if you'd like to help in some way, please contact Pastor Andy Blankenship.

WW Planning Meeting, September 13, 7:00 p.m. All WW leaders and workers need to attend this meeting, and anyone interested in this ministry is also welcome. A major agenda item for this particular meeting will be planning a kickoff event for later in the month.

**Church Council
will meet this month.
Date and time TBA.**



INREACH OUTREACH

Frank Thompson is excited about this year's new inreach /outreach ministry in our church. He is asking for everyone's help in identifying specific needs that the ministry can meet. These include people who need a contact such as a personal invitation to church services, a card, a phone call, an email and/or a visit as well as benevolence.

Forms to facilitate this ministry will be available in Sunday School classrooms and the sanctuary. When you think of a need, please complete one of these forms and give to Frank. Frank asks if you do not feel comfortable sharing the details about the need on the form, please be sure to include your name and contact information so that he can obtain any needed further information from you.

Please help Frank help our church *reach in* to minister to our members and *reach out* to minister to the unchurched people in our community.



Please remember to pray for:

Deacon Nominating Committee: Bob Latimer, Elizabeth Taylor and Floyd Tucker.

Associational Director of Missions Search Committee: Craig Bussee, Carroll Camp, Net Lewis, Brenda Lockerman and Ray Sullivan.



Georgia Baptist State Missions

Season of Prayer and Offering
September 12-18, 2010

Population growth projections for Georgia over the next ten years indicate that by 2020 our population will be larger in number, older in age and more ethnically diverse. In response to these projections, Georgia Baptists need to plant new churches and expand our witness in the next ten years in order to effectively reach the population of our state.

The focus of our 2010 State Missions Season of Prayer and Offering, "Planting the Gospel: A New Church in Every Community," will direct our thoughts upon how we can meet the need to reach Georgia for Christ through planting new churches.

According to Dr. J. Robert White, CEO/Executive Director of our Georgia Baptist Convention, we particularly need to plant new churches in our cities since a greater portion of the projected population growth in Georgia over the next 10 years will take place in our 20 largest cities.

Dr. White encourages all Georgia Baptists to pray for people living in all our cities and for those who are sharing the Gospel among those living there. Dr. White also requests churches pray about how they might be involved in providing a stronger Christian witness in a nearby city.

When we consider the number of people lost without Christ all around us—*statistics show that more than 70 percent of the population of Georgia are unreached by the gospel*—Georgia Baptists must be Acts 1:8 Christians sharing Jesus in our Jerusalem, our Judea, our Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the world.

Our State Offering Goal is \$500. Offering envelopes and prayer guides will be available at the church house.



Planting ^{the} Gospel
a new church in every community


In honor of Grandparents Day September 12



Helen Aberg used to give generous Christmas presents to her several grandchildren, but the kids never sent thank-you notes, despite the urgings of their respective parents. But then one year things changed. Grandma sent a hundred dollar Christmas check to each grandchild. The very next day, each child came over in person to thank her. She was telling this to a friend of hers, who said, "How wonderful! What do you think caused them to become so polite?"

"Well," said Helen, "It was easy. This year I didn't sign the checks."

—Nelson's Big Book of Laughter



see
you
at the
flagpole
Sept. 22
(before school)

Go to www.syatp.com for more information

Monthly feature

News from afar



Natasha, Roman, Oleg and Vitali Turlac

About six years ago, we met a couple from Moldolva, Natasha and Oleg Turlac, when they visited our church. Natasha blessed us with her beautiful singing, and Oleg with his passionate preaching. Several years later, Oleg's brother Vitali, visited with us. The Turlacs have visited our association several more times over the years and we continue to hear from them through their quarterly newsletter.

Some of you may remember when Roman was born in October 2006. He will soon be four. On their last trip to the states, Roman was tested for speech delay issues. He has a speech delay of about a year and a half, and his parents are working hard to stimulate him to speak. Natasha and Oleg ask for your prayers for Roman and that God will help them see the day when Roman will start to speak.

Please continue to pray for the Turlacs as they seek to do God's will in their ministry in the former Soviet Union area and beyond. For more information about the Turlacs ministry, check out their newsletter on the bulletin board across from the nursery.



Sign up to place flowers in the sanctuary for the coming church year. Signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from the

Community news

Turkey Creek Festival Association needs you

There's not a lot these days in Byromville to draw us together as a community—at least not like there used to be when had a local school and a local grocery store. That's why our annual festival, the Turkey Creek Festival, is so important, as well as our annual Christmas in the Park. And we need folks to help us keep them going.

Please join us at the municipal complex at the corner of Central Avenue and Main Street for our first meeting of the new season on September 21 at 7:00 p.m. Our most pressing agenda item will be planning this year's Christmas in the Park. Contact TCFA president Brenda Lockerman (433-2791) for more information.



Looking ahead

October is World Hunger Month and Pastor Appreciation Month.

October 17 is National Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day.

October 19 First Baptist Church Unadilla will host the annual meeting of Houston Baptist Association.

November 15-22 is collection week for the Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.

Soup and Sandwich Supper
September 26
After 6pm Worship



Schedule of Volunteers for September

Please remember it is up to **you** to arrange coverage if **you** are unable to serve on your scheduled day.

Date	Flowers	Nursery AM	Nursery PM	Deacon of the Week	Ushers
Sep. 5	Pat Hatcher	Rhonda Youngblood	Suzy Grantham	Floyd Tucker	Monta Averill William Preston
Sep. 12	Pat Hatcher	Sue Thompson	Sharon Thompson	Jimmy Lockerman	Bob Latimer Kyle West
Sep. 19	Pat Hatcher	Katrina West	Michelle Kitchens	Arthur Roney	Clinton Brannen Ronnie Hatcher
Sep. 26	Pat Hatcher	Vicki Lamberth	Robin Peavy	Mark Smith	Daniel Thompson Matthew Youngblood

August Sunday School Stats

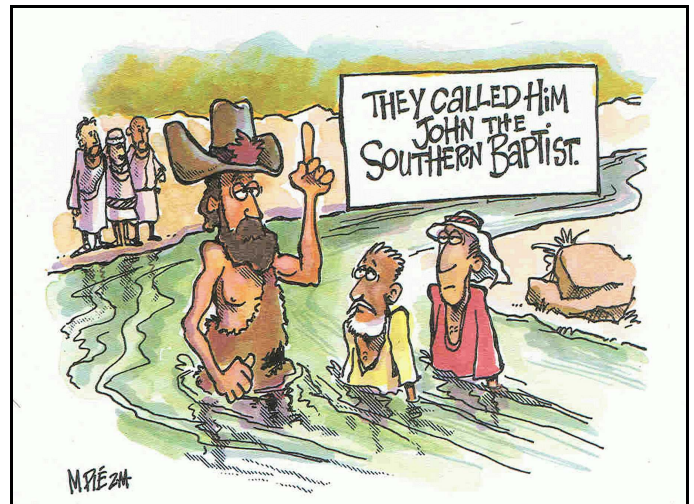
Senior Adults	10
FBIC	11
CIA	6
VOC	7
Young Adults	10
Older Youth	5
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Graders	0
3 rd , 4 th , & 5 th Graders	4
1 st & 2 nd Graders	6
Older Preschoolers	3
Younger Preschoolers	10
Nursery	1
General Officers	3
TOTAL	75

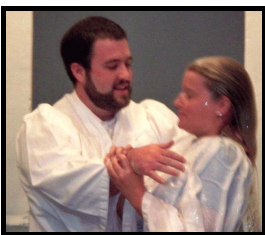
Financial Summary

<u>July receipts</u>	
General offerings	\$ 8,592.00
Interest CD	163.31
Offerings from VBS	390.44
Special–Bell sign	190.00
Special–kitchen stove	24.00
Mailbox Club Offering	195.95
Memorials	<u>770.00</u>
TOTAL	10,325.70
<u>July disbursements</u>	
General expenses	11,009.90
Playground equipment	500.00
Mailbox Club	300.00
Bell sign	189.50
Pastorium maintenance	184.63
West VA mission trip (from VBS offering)	390.44
Cooperative Program	1,440.79
Houston Baptist Association	<u>554.15</u>
TOTAL	\$14,569.41

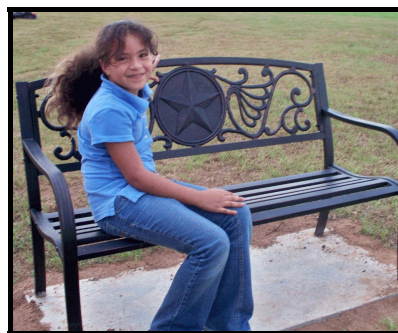
For
Sunday School Teachers
who want to be better
Sunday School Teachers

Sunday School Training Workshop
September 18
8:30am–12:00pm
Mabel White Baptist Church
1415 Bass Road, Macon
Cost: \$5/person





More pics on website





Children's Choir
Resumes September 12
Sundays at 5:00 p.m.
For kids in grades one and up
For more information contact Jill Brannen (433-2156) or Rhonda Youngblood (268-7464)

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
713 Patterson Street † POB 126
Byromville, GA 31007
www.byromvillebaptistchurch.com
478-433-2505
Pastor: Andy Blankenship

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31007

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
SEPTMBER			1	2	3	4 
5 No Children's Choir 7:00pm Deacons Meeting	6 Labor Day	7	8	9 Rosh Hashanah	10	11 Patriot Day 7:30am GA trip to Savannah Baptist Center, Savannah
12 Grandparents Day	13 7:00pm Wonderful Wednesday Meeting	14	15	16 7:00pm GEMS leaving for The Olde Inn	17 3:00pm Byromville Woman's Club, Page Club House	18 Yom Kippur 5:00pm McLean/Kitchens Wedding
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR STATE MISSIONS						
19	20 10:00am Women on Mission (going out to eat after meeting) 2:00pm Birthday Party at Pinehill	21 7:00pm Turkey Creek Festival Assn. Meeting, Municipal Complex	22 Autumn begins See You At The Pole before school	23	24	25
26 Soup & Sandwich Supper after 6pm Worship	27	28	29	30	2010	



Birthdays



- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 9-4 Rusty Wilkes | 9-21 Pat Hatcher | 9-29 Virginia Lockerman |
| 9-6 Jamie Gauthier | 9-23 Louise Kirksey | 9-30 Clint Payne |
| Terri Gregory | 9-24 Amy Langford | Chip Woodruff |
| 9-11 Madison Hunter | Ben Brinson | 10-1 Brandy Elrod |
| 9-13 Vernon Kirksey | Christopher Phillips | Shani Payne |
| Nancy Musselwhite | 9-25 Ansley Thompson | Juston Trimback |
| 9-14 Keith Lamberth | 9-26 Kimberly Godfrey | 10-2 Paul Bush |
| 9-15 Alexandra Braddock | 9-27 Steve Peavy | Beverly Carroll |
| Thomas Braddock | Scott Woodruff | Brandy Miller |
| 9-17 Denver Massey | Todd Woods | |
| Lawson Massey | 9-28 Newt Brock | |
| 9-19 Karli Thompson | Taylor Bryant | |
| 9-20 Hannah Morrow | Tonya Hunter | Pray for these folks on their birthday. |

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

Sunday School. . . . 10:00AM
Worship. 11:00AM
Children's Choir. . . . 5:00PM
Worship. 6:00PM

WEDNESDAY

Supper. 6:00PM
Mission Friends. . . . 6:30PM
Royal Ambassadors. 6:30PM
Acteens. 6:30PM
Challengers. 6:30PM
Prayer Meeting. 7:00PM

