

Centennial

BAPTIST NEWS

Networking churches to make disciples

Number 02 February 2019 Volume 59

Women's Inspirational Meeting
February 25 th
Macedonia Baptist Church
512 Hightower St, Thomaston
6 PM

Come and enjoy a covered dish meal and a time to recharge. This night will leave you inspired to do the hard work with a heart like His.

We will hear from Capitol Campaign Consultant, **Sue Smith**, with **Pinnacle Retreat Center**. There is much to learn about this GA Baptist property and all that it offers. Come and glean.

"May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer." Ps 19:14



Attention: Executive Committee Meeting • February 21st

Fellowship Baptist Church, 3133 Crest Hwy, Thomaston • 6:30 PM

ELEVATE

CHURCH STRATEGY SUMMIT

Save the Date! Tuesday, April 30, 2019 First Baptist Church, Barnesville, GA



Bob Bickford
Associate Director of
NAMB REPLANT



Free for Members of Centennial Churches
For a schedule, information, and registration
centennialbaptistassociation.com/elevate

Rev. Steve Laughman- Associational Mission Strategist
Rev. Bill Barber- Moderator
Rev. Joey Smith- Vice Moderator

Mrs. Marni Laughman- Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Gail West- Treasurer

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A Word from Your Mission Strategist, Steve Laughman

In 2 Kings 18, we are told that King Hezekiah led the people of Judah to turn back to the one true God. “He removed the high places and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the Asherah. He also broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the sons of Israel burned incense to it; and it was called Nehushtan.” One has to wonder how something that God meant as a symbol of salvation became an object of false worship.

We all know the story of how the children of Israel were dying from venomous snake bites in the wilderness. (Check out Numbers 21 for the full story.) Moses was instructed by God to make a fiery serpent out of bronze and lift it up. When someone was bit by a snake, they simply had to look at the serpent, and they would be healed. When Jesus discussed regeneration with Nicodemus (John 3), He enlightened the scribe with the revelation that “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.” So some 1400 years before Jesus was born, his crucifixion was being demonstrated in the wilderness.

But somehow between Moses and Hezekiah, the people moved from recognizing the serpent on the standard as a symbol of salvation to worshipping it as an idol. You can see how they made this mistake. Worship in the temple was corrupted. Passover had not been practiced for years. Through the judges and many of the kings, worship of God had been sporadic. The people simply did what people do today. They look for something to worship and often times focus on the wrong things.

What is tragic about this particular instance is that the original intention for the serpent was holy and good, yet over time people adulterated it. I think this is what happens in churches today when we place too much emphasis on tradition and preferences. We have made idols out of things God intended as tools to point us to Him. When the style of worship or the way we do church becomes an end unto itself, we are missing the point. When Jesus is the focus, the other stuff doesn’t matter as much.

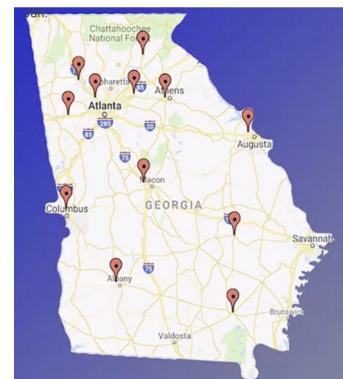
So what is your Nehushtan? What is that part of your worship or practice that was once a means to focus on Jesus, but has now become a distraction from true worship? Maybe it is time we do some introspection and shatter the serpent on the standard in our own lives. Making these changes can be difficult, because we have placed importance on such things. But remember that when Jesus is lifted up, He will draw all men unto Himself. Let’s be like Hezekiah who “clung to the Lord; he did not depart from following Him.”(2 Kings 18:6)



Listening Sessions with Thomas Hammond

The purpose of these roundtable “**Listening Sessions with Thomas Hammond**” is to allow pastors to interact and fellowship with the new Executive Director and discuss issues that will shape the future of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board.

01/31- Roswell Street Baptist	Marietta	10:30am–12:00pm
01/31- Hebron Baptist	Dacula	6:00pm–7:30pm
02/20- Concord Baptist	Clermont	10:30am–12:00pm
02/21- Northway Baptist	Macon	10:30A–12:00pm
02/21- Wynnbrook Baptist	Columbus	6:00pm–7:30pm
02/25- Tabernacle Baptist	Cartersville	10:30am–12:00pm
02/25- FBC Villa Rica	Carrollton	6:00pm–7:30pm
02/28- Sherwood Baptist	Albany	10:30am–12:00pm
02/28- Central Baptist	Waycross	6:00pm–7:30pm



OUR VISION:

By 2020, CBA will be a unified yet diverse network of equipped churches moving in a strategic missional direction.

Bumper Sticker Version:

Equipping Churches To Make Disciples

Ministers Meeting

The Garden Patch
100 Southland Drive
Barnesville, GA 30204

February 11, 2019

12 Noon

All ministers are invited.

Music Ministers Roundtable

March 19th

12 Noon

Country Cupboard

All music ministers are invited.

♥ Quarterly Fellowship Lunch ♥ New Bethel, 1278 Jeff Davis RD, Thomaston ♥ 2/14 Valentine's Day ♥ 12:00 Noon ♥



Equip Your Students To Go From "Scared To Prepared"
To Share Their Faith Story With The World!

**Become part of a story-sharing movement
designed to impact the lives of your students so
they can impact their world!**

Register your church TODAY!



Centennial has a vision
for an Outreach Trailer.

This resource will be
filled with inflatables,
block party games,
popcorn machine, and
more. We pray it will be
an incredible resource

for your church to use as a tool to engage
the lost in your community. Will you join
with us as we pray for
wisdom to move forward?

If you, your church, Sunday
school class, or family
would like to financially
contribute, send donations
to the CBA office designated
as "Outreach Equipment".



2019 Dental Clinic

Silvertown Baptist Church
300 Goodrich Ave, Thomaston

If you or someone you know is
interested in attending,
appointments are given on a first
come first serve basis beginning
March 11th at 9:00 AM.
706-601-2541

If you are interested in **volunteering**
to help with the clinic, there will be a
meeting **Tuesday, February 12th at**
6:30 PM at Silvertown. Please make
every effort to attend.

Sponsored by the churches that make up the
Centennial Baptist Association and the
Baptist Mobile Health Ministry of the
Georgia Baptist Mission Board.

Income for December 2018

	Dec 18	Jan18 – Dec18
Checking Interest	6.89	77.47
Antioch	620.92	8,420.31
Bethany	250.00	3,000.00
Beulah	192.00	2,654.00
Calvary	0.00	0.00
Clark's Chapel	100.00	1,200.00
Concord	0.00	1,400.00
Culloden	0.00	600.00
East Thomaston	329.76	4,236.34
Elkins Creek	0.00	0.00
Emory's Chapel	0.00	0.00
FBC Barnesville	1,248.63	16,368.16
FBC Forsyth	0.00	0.00
FBC Thomaston	782.74	10,275.78
Fellowship	556.27	7,128.29
Garden Hill	0.00	0.00
GracePoint	50.00	400.00
Hendricks	0.00	0.00
Jeff Davis	0.00	250.00
King's Chapel	100.00	300.00
Macedonia	0.00	300.00
Maynard	415.26	6,752.01
Meansville	241.74	2,900.00
Milner	493.70	5,444.76
Molena	0.00	0.00
Mount Olive	1,198.33	13,621.79
Mountain View	1,503.00	21,879.00
Mt. Pleasant	0.00	400.00
Mt. Zion	0.00	826.00
Neal	50.00	600.00
New Bethel	50.00	600.00
New Harmony	0.00	415.01
New Hope Thomaston	100.00	568.36
New Hope Zebulon	209.22	1,885.99
Pine View	0.00	300.00
Pritchett Memorial	247.11	869.51
Russellville	0.00	657.64
Shiloh Lamar	300.00	2,127.00
Shiloh Upson	50.00	600.00
Silvertown	0.00	1,729.60
The Rock	22.70	291.40
Trinity	300.00	3,600.00
Valley Grove	0.00	3,989.87
Yatesville	0.00	1,200.00
Total Church Receipts	9,361.38	127,790.82
Disbursements for December 2018		
Administrative Expenses		1,695.73
Associational Programs		103.05
Miscellaneous Expenses		0.00
Organizational Expenses		320.00
Pastorium Maintenance		721.00
Salaries and Allowances		8,279.04
Total Budgeted Expenditures		8,267.22
Designated Accounts Expenses		11.82
Monthly Surplus/Shortfall		1,094.16

Opportunities & Church News

New Hope Thomaston is seeking a *pianist*. If you are interested in applying, please email your resume to newhopebaptist1@windstream.net

Molena is seeking *volunteers to serve in music and youth ministries*. Contact Pastor Terry Murphey at murpheytc1@bellsouth.net

Calendar of Events

February 2019

4-6	CBA Office Closed	AMS & Wives Retreat	Toccoa, GA
11	Ministers Meeting	Garden Patch	12 Noon
	SS Mentoring Session #7	FBC Thomaston	6:30 PM
12	Dental Clinic Training	Silvertown	6:30 PM
14	Quarterly Fellowship Lunch	New Bethel	12 Noon
21	Listening Session w/ T. Hammond	Macon	10:30 AM & Columbus 6 PM
	Executive Committee	Fellowship	6:30 PM
25	Southside Summit	Eagle's Landing FBC	8 AM- 4 PM
	CBA Women's Inspirational Mtg	Macedonia	6 PM

March 2019

3-10	Week of Prayer for North American Missions		
4-13	CBA Office Closed	Please pray for Steve & Marni while in Israel.	
10	Daylight Savings	Spring Forward	
11	Dental Clinic Appointments Open		9 AM
	SS Mentoring Session #8	Yatesville	6:30 PM
14-16	Dental Clinic	Silvertown	
18	Ministers Meeting	Garden Patch	12 Noon
19	Music Ministers Roundtable	Country Cupboard	12 Noon
	Monroe Roundtable	New Providence	2 PM
21	Upson/Pike Roundtable	Gathering Grounds	10 AM



Shepherd Stories

Tim and Kristi Bosworth serve the members of New Harmony in Thomaston and are blessed with three children and a daughter in law. These two work at Upson Lee Middle School and are both coaches for the male and female tennis teams at Upson Lee High School. This couple is the definition of teamwork! I have the privilege of calling them friends in life, coach on the courts and Pastor and Pastor Wife in ministry. Tim surrendered to the call of ministry later in life and walks in humility at the thought of being used this way. Recently when I asked him how things were going at the church, he responded with a heartfelt request for prayer for members of his congregation that were hurting. It wasn't until later in our conversation that I learned he had baptized a new believer just the day before! I told him he should have led with that! Most pastors would have, but not him. He feels the pain of his flock and that tells me the condition of his own heart. Oh that we would all be moved the same way for the lost and hurting. Kristi and I could get into some serious trouble if left unattended for any length of time! We have way more in common than our hair styles! This woman loves her man and loves the life that God has given her. This fun-loving couple lives an authentic Christian walk for others to see that our God is present and active in our lives. They cherish the bumps and bruises of living and ministering. They aren't immune to pain, but spend any amount of time with them and you will see and hear the steadfast Spirit of the Father overshadowing trial. They are contagious and draw others to the Father. That's what life is all about!

Marni