

March 2018

Issue 3

The Tucker Newsletter

Tucker Baptist Scholarships



Tucker Baptist Scholarships are available to members and former members of Tucker Baptist churches who are in college or seminary for a church-related vocation.

**Deadline for Applications:
March 23, 2018**

Applications are also available at the Tucker Baptist Office: 336-7574

2018 Church Financial Compliance & Giving Seminar



When: **March 22, 2018**

Where:

Liberty Baptist Church,

2909 Vada Rd., Bainbridge

Time: **6p.m. until 9 p.m.**

Cost: **\$10 per person or \$15 at the door**

This event is designed for both church staff and lay leaders who work with church finances to stay current with financial issues as they relate specifically to churches, as well as topics related to church giving. Register @ dsharitt@gabaptist.org

Workshops Offered:

- Is it Taxable if our Church Pays for....?
- Housing Allowance Dos and Don'ts
- Federal Payroll Reporting for Church Staff
- The Forgotten Formula for Funding Church Ministry
- Constitution/By-Laws; Policies & Procedures
- High Giving Churches: Latest Research & New
- Insights & Tools You Can Use Now

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering



March

- 12 Ed Green
- 14 Ami Mejia
- 22 Neal Hager
- 25 Eva Causey
- 26 Brent Barber

March

- 12 Olen Cain
- 21 Ed & Sherri Green
- 23 Simon & Ami Mejia

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING
anniearmstrong.com

March 4-11, 2018
North American
Mission Board

National Goal: \$70 MILLION

100% of your gifts support
North American
Missionaries

ON MISSION

HERE & NOW

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING
anniearmstrong.com



2018 Theme:

On Mission—HERE & NOW

"We must not love with word or speech, but with truth and action." 1 John 3:18

When I was a missionary overseas, I worked among a people that thought long-term planning was thinking about what we would do tomorrow, twenty-four hours from now. Everything was short term thinking. It was thinking about today or thinking only about what felt good in the moment. I got used to working the same way. Missionaries learn to adjust and I adjusted maybe too well to that. Now that I am in the USA, I am having to get adjusted to long-term planning once again. Long-term planning can be an exciting thing. Today I want to tell you about a long-term project that will be happening NEXT year. We will hold our **On Mission Celebration February 23-27, 2019**. That will be Saturday through Wednesday. We will have the opportunity to hear from some of the missionaries we support. It is going to be a very joyful time for us. There is a lot of hard work that will go into this

project. After seeing all the good teamwork on Camp Tucker day a few weeks ago, I am confident we will have all the cooperation we need to make this an excellent missions conference. Mark your calendars now!

Each week I read the local paper and see people in our churches involved in various Christian ministry in our area. Recently the Pelham Civitan Club honored our pastors who deserved some appreciation for all they do. I have seen photos of Bekka Neigh, Angela Cox, Pastor Chad Boyd, Pastor John McComas and some others working with the children in the Camilla Housing Authority. It is good to see Brother Matt Peek and Brother Joe Beauchamp writing articles for the newspaper on a frequent basis. A few weeks ago there was an article about the donations of our churches that provided Christmas gifts to the prisoners at

MCCI. I know that there are others of you who are impacting the community but your photo is not in the paper. I appreciate you. This kind of service pleases the Lord and lets people know you care. We need to see a lot more caring these days don't we?

During the first week of March we will join Southern Baptists all across America in the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for missions in North America. Our gifts support many sacrificial servants of the Lord who work in hard places all across American and Canada. I hope we will have bold goals as well as joyful and generous giving to this offering which impacts people who go where we cannot go. Pray for those who work in our crime-riddled inner cities like Chicago, the Rocky Mountain states where Mormonism has a stronghold, the post-Christian northeastern United States where many towns have little or no

Evangelical witness. In some towns in New England there are more closed church buildings than open ones. With us seeing the tragic death of 17 people at a high school in Florida this week, we are reminded how much people need the Lord. I don't know all the circumstances of the shooter's life. However, I have wondered if a Christian family or church had loved Nicholas Cruz in his teen years and been there when his mom died, would that have made a difference? Would he have known love instead of anger and abandonment? This might have kept him from looking for a sense of belonging from a white supremacist group and given him something better to live for. Would 17 people be alive today if someone had cared enough to befriend an angry and hurting young man? We may never know.

However, I wonder.

Your Missionary,

LEE BRADLEY

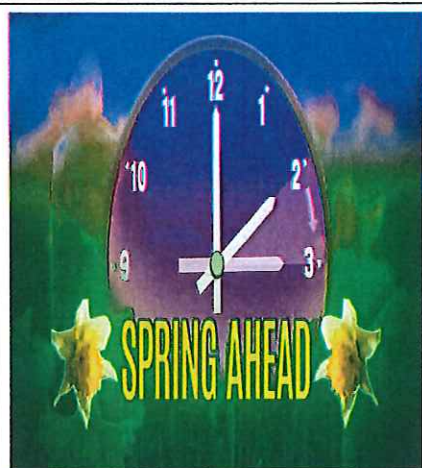
On Mission Celebration 2019

March your Calendar!

February 23-27, 2019 is our next On Mission Celebration!

Please put these dates on your calendars and begin to pray and publicize this special event. We also pray that all 24 churches will participate in this special event.

Upcoming Events



Sunday, March 11th

March

- 4-10 Youth Week (SBC)
- 4-11 Week of Prayer & Mission Study for North American Mission and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (SBC)
- 5 Prayer Coordinator's Meeting, TBC, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 VBS Clinic, Sherwood, 7:30 a.m. register thur 12:30 p.m., Attention VBS Director— call and register your Association @ (770) 936-5286.
- 11 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 12 State Executive Committee Meeting, Duluth
- 18 Church Planting Emphasis Sunday & Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday (SBC)
- 22 Church Compliance Seminar, Liberty Baptist Church, Bainbridge, 6-9 p.m. with Tony Neal
- 26 Scholarship Meeting, TBC, 7 p.m.
- 26-28 Holy Weeks Services
- 30 Good Friday, TBC, Closed

April

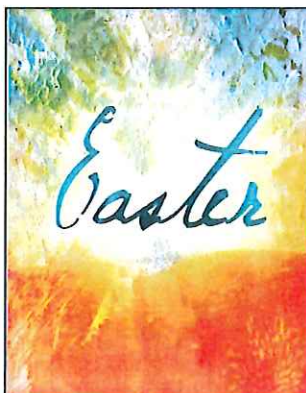
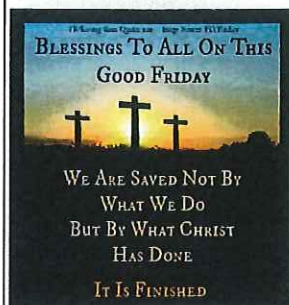
- 1 Easter
- 8 Cooperative Program Sunday (SBC)
- 9 Joint Men's Ministries/WMU Meeting, Camilla FBC, 6:30 p.m. (supper)
- 12 Executive Committee Meeting, Mt. Carmel, 6:30 p.m. (supper)

Prayer Coordinator's Meeting



March 5th
Tucker Baptist Center
6:30 p.m.

Tucker Baptist Center Closed March 30th for Good Friday



April 1st

Church News

Pelham First: Family Day will be on March 3 at Camp Crosspoint 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 9 & 10 the youth will have a Community Clean-Up. On March 11 we will have a Luncheon followed by Awana Grand Prix covered dish luncheon. Ladies on March 18 the Titus II will have a luncheon? The youth will lead the Awana on March 21. "A Busy Day" on March 25 the Easter

Cantata will be presented during AM services, afternoon picnic and Easter egg hunt for Preschoolers and the Youth will lead the PM services. We will have a combined service on March 30 with Hand Memorial United Methodist at 6 p.m. Pelham will have a Community Easter Egg Hunt on March 31. Rev. Matt Peek, Pastor

Pine Cliff: We are seeking a Bi-Vocational Worship Leader and Choir Director. Please send your resume to Pine Cliff Baptist Church, 8193 Pine Cliff Rd., Camilla, GA 31730. Rev. Joe Poitevint, Pastor

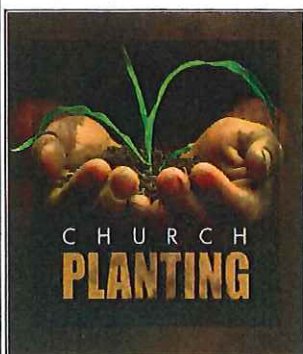
Pleasant Grove: We have a used Sound System with microphones to be given away. For more information call Glenn Pollock @ 787-5728 or 349-9012. Rev. Ricky Griner, Pastor

Please note the deadline for church news for the Newsletter is the 20th of each month and should be 75 words or less. Thank you!

TUCKER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION'S PURPOSE

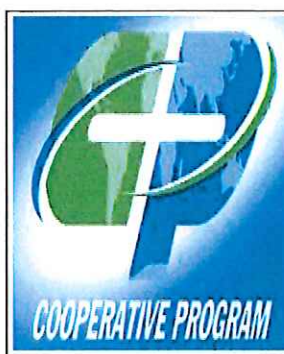
The purpose of Tucker Association is to promote Christian fellowship and cooperation among affiliated churches and in the denomination; to train people in Evangelism, Bible Study, Discipleship Training and other church programs; to promote and support evangelism and missions in churches and ministries in the community at large.

SBC and GBC Events



March 18th

Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday March 18, 2018



April 8th
Cooperative Program
Day

Treasurer's Update

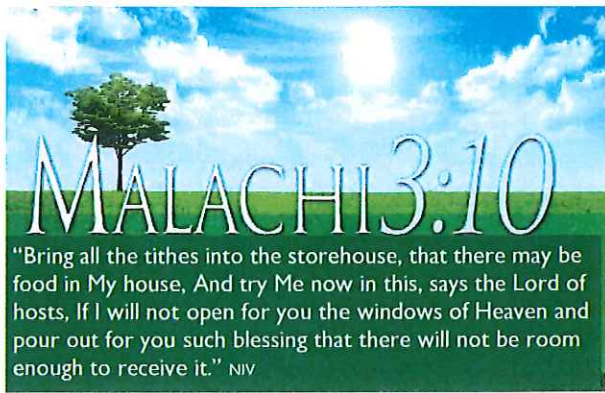
Mr. Duane Bentley
 Associational Treasurer
 668 Hand Ave.
 Pelham, GA 31779
 March 2018

Balance January 31, 2018	\$77,967.60
Monthly Income 2/28/18	\$6,700.67
Monthly Expenses 2/28/18	-\$8,265.91
Current Liabilities (+/-)	+\$154.98
February 28, 2018	\$76,557.34
Designated Funds	-\$11,136.70
Total Current Liabilities	-\$1,108.96
Total Operating Funds	\$64,311.68

Year to Date

Church Contributions
 Receipts February 2018

	<u>Office</u>	<u>Camp Tucker</u>
Baconton	0.00	0.00
Camilla First	3,211.95	0.00
Cool Springs	290.00	0.00
Delwood	1,435.76	875.00
East Pelham	300.00	150.00
Harmony	725.11	0.00
Hinsonton	666.66	166.66
Hopeful	1,150.00	550.00
Lake Pleasant	0.00	600.00
Lakeside	225.00	1,200.00
Liberty Hill	68.00	0.00
Mt. Carmel	0.00	0.00
Mt. Olive	350.00	0.00
Mt. Zion	0.00	0.00
Newton	400.00	0.00
Pebble City	450.00	0.00
Pelham First	2,401.19	0.00
Pine Cliff	1,084.01	482.00
Pleasant Grove	1,000.00	0.00
Pleasant Hill	1,218.48	487.39
Sale City	542.00	0.00
Southside	0.00	0.00
Trinity	200.00	0.00
Union Grove	434.99	150.00
Total	\$16,085.15	\$4,661.05



"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, If I will not open for you the windows of Heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." NIV

the LORD has done
GREAT things
 & we are **JOY** for US
 filled with
 Psalm 126:3

Tucker Baptist Association
 700 South Harney Street
 P.O. Box 442
 Camilla, GA 31730

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit Organ.
 US Postage Paid
 Permit NO. 14
 Camilla, GA 31730

The Tucker Baptist Association

Rev. Lee Bradley

Cell # (256) 452-4016

Office Phone: 229-336-7574

jlbrad_62@hotmail.com

suesadler@tuckerbaptistassociation.com

Website: www.tuckerbaptistassociation.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM-3:00PM Fri. 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon

"In God We Trust"

WMU Spring Event

&

GA Baptist Ministry Assistant's



Spring Event

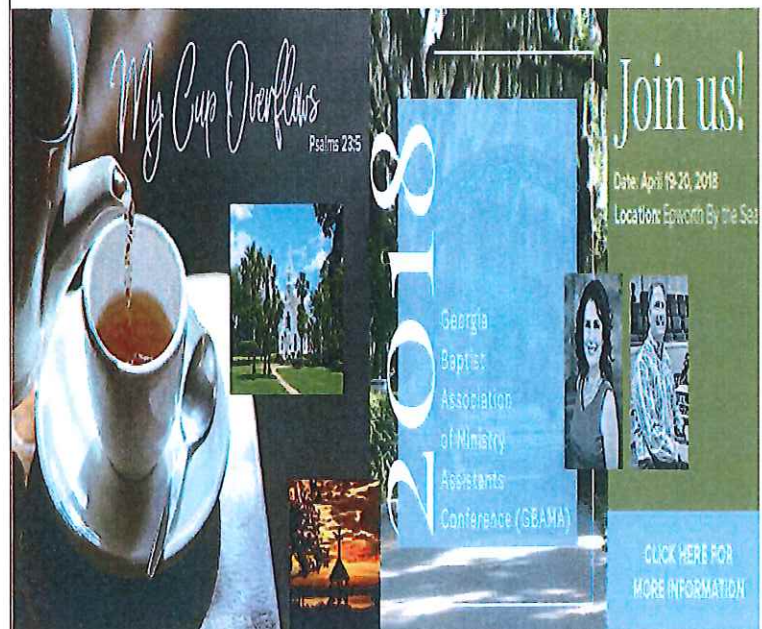
An experience | April 13-14, 2018
 for women of all ages | Atlanta Evergreen Marriott, Stone Mountain

Everyone has a need to grow and learn and we are certain you will find something that hits the spot for you at this year's Spring Event. Check out the conference options at

gabaptistwomenspringevent.com

and register!

GA Baptist Ministry Assistant's Retreat
Epworth by the Sea
Saint Simons Island
April 19th-20th



What Is Wrong and What Is Wrong?

From my heart to yours

By Lee Bradley, Missionary of Tucker Baptist Association

I write this newsletter article asking the question, “What is wrong?” I ask that question because I am deeply burdened by the state of our churches. Did you know that in 2017, the churches of our association only baptized 48 people? That is down from 117 in 2016. Eleven of our twenty-four churches baptized no one. NO ONE!!! Some of these eleven churches haven’t baptized anyone in many years. Why? Did you know that we have six churches in our association which have active memberships of less than 25 people, the vast majority being over the age of 70. This week two more of our churches lost their pastors. That brings us up to six churches without a pastor. In the past few days I have talked with a couple more pastors who are on the brink of quitting. What is wrong?

There is burnout. There is frustration. There is spiritual dryness. The Holy Spirit is resisted continually. Change is unwelcome in many of our churches, even when failure is evident all around us. In fact, in some churches, change is not only unwelcome, it is actively resisted, usually for no good reason. Personal convenience and personal preferences are of higher priority than change that leads to kingdom advancement. Traditions, material things in our church buildings, the style of worship, the places where we sit in the sanctuary, high profile individuals, including some pastors, have become idols. Why has church too often been reduced to merely accommodating these idols and keeping people happy? Did Jesus not create his church for **HIS GLORY? IS THIS NOT WHY WE EXIST?** If everybody is pleased, but God is not pleased, what does it matter? If God is pleased, what does it matter if any man is displeased?

Brothers and sisters, we have six churches that are less than a decade from closing if they do not change and ask the Lord to come in and take control. There are some other churches that will be in a similar state in another fifteen to twenty years if they continue on the same path they are currently going. It is time for people to learn how to REALLY trust the Lord and to surrender to him. Many of our churches think if they find “the right man” that everything will turn around. **Do you see how delusional this thinking is?** If you and your church aren’t following the Great Shepherd now, you won’t follow one of his under-shepherds. Don’t deceive yourselves! It is time for some serious soul searching around here. It is time to stop lying to ourselves. It is time to wake up! It is time to get right with God. This is the first step of revival. Today is the day of repentance! It starts with you, brother, and with you, sister.

I am not pulling any punches today. **Most of what our churches do stinks!** It isn’t pleasing to God or attractive to those outside the church because it is all man-centered, man-generated, man-exalting. God is marginalized. Life-change is not happening. We are not salt and light. **WHAT IS EVEN MORE SOBERING IS THAT PEOPLE ARE NOT GOING TO RETURN TO OUR CHURCHES IF WE KEEP DOING WHAT WE’RE DOING.** It is not a matter of new strategies, programs or better music. It is a matter of God moving and working among us as we surrender our lives, our idols, our sins. It is a matter of returning to him, begging **HIM** to take control, confessing our total inability to do anything without Him, and our total desire to do nothing without Him. All self-reliance be gone! We need to tell God, “Please come back to our church!” In far too many churches, he hasn’t been working in a long time. We have shut him out. We’ve been in control and the results have been disastrous. We need to tell God we are sick of doing church our way. We want Him back.

I don’t believe in being cruel or brutal, but being diplomatic isn’t getting us anywhere. Denial of the problem isn’t getting us anywhere either. Business as usual isn’t cutting it. It is time to get real and to be direct. Our niceness is not producing change. It is just anesthetizing us to drift deeper into the coma that we are in. I am not going to be a party to that. I will say what needs to be said, even if it offends. I care enough to take that risk and I am willing to pay that price.

My heart is aching over this. If you are burdened for the same things I am, please come talk with me about this. Come and let’s pray together for real revival in your church and in all our churches. Let’s be the catalysts for real revival to come to the churches of TBA.