

North Central News

Serving the Churches of the Etowah, Hightower, Lanier and Roswell Baptist Associations

October 2016



Etowah Baptist Association Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 25

North Central Area Missions, 4206 North Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Worship Service at 7:00 PM

Rev. Thomas Hammond, President of the Georgia Baptist Convention and Senior Pastor at Alpharetta First Baptist, will be our speaker during the Worship Service

Georgia Baptist Children's Home Collection for Churches in the Etowah and Roswell Baptist Associations

will be held at North Central Area Missions beginning at 5:00 PM (just prior to the Etowah Annual Meeting).

Items being collected by Etowah and Roswell Baptist Association Churches are: Hamburger/Chicken Helper, Jello, Mandarin Oranges, Cream Soups - mushroom, chicken, celery, etc. Gift Cards are always appreciated.

If you need to bring your Children's Home items prior to October 25, please feel free to do so. But, please give us a call at 770-384-8548 or email janice@northcentralga.org to be sure someone will be present to receive your items.

195th Georgia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

November 14-15, 2016 - Savannah, Georgia

"...striving together
for the faith
of the gospel..."

Philippians 1:27

For additional information, please
visit gabaptist.org/annualmeeting

UNITE
Georgia



Host: Calvary Baptist Temple

BACKPACKS for Appalachia



Once again this year, the Georgia Baptist Mission Board is conducting the Backpacks for Appalachia Christmas collection.

You may bring your filled backpacks to the North Central Area Missions office at 4206 North Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock, beginning October 17, 2016. The last date we will receive backpacks is November 10, 2016. Your filled backpacks do need to be placed in 18x18x16 size storage boxes (available at Wal-mart, Home Depot, Lowes, etc). We will have a truck available on site at North Central Area Missions beginning on October 17 thru November 10 for loading your backpacks. North Central Area Missions will be responsible for getting the backpacks to one of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board locations.

If you/your church would like for North Central Area Missions to print and laminate the labels (which are to be fastened to the outside of each backpack), print the Christmas Story flyer or the ARM Mailbox Club card (which are to be placed inside each backpack), we will be glad to do so.

DIRECTIONS AND GIFT SUGGESTIONS

All backpacks and contents need to be NEW

TOYS: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, small music instruments, yoyos, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, toys that light up or make noise (include extra batteries), Slinky, Frisbee, card games such as Old Maid, Go Fish, etc

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: pens, pencils (with sharpener), crayons, markers, stamps and ink pads, writing pads, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc

HYGIENE ITEMS: toothpaste, toothbrush, mild bar soap (boxed in a plastic bag), hairbrush, comb, washcloth, hair clips/elastics, etc

OTHER: age appropriate Bibles, hard candy/lollipops/mints (double bag all candy), **NO CHOCOLATE CANDY**, gum, socks, t-shirts, hats, sunglasses, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), age appropriate Christian books, pop-top cans of food, etc

IDEAS FOR OLDER KIDS (10-14 YEARS): Girls - lip gloss, costume jewelry, scarves, bracelets, craft kits, journals, fun socks and slippers, doodle books, etc
Boys - legos, card games, hand-held electronic games, basketball, soccer ball, football

For additional information regarding Backpacks for Appalachia, please call 770-384-8548 or email janice@northcentralga.org.

NOTE: Churches in the Hightower Baptist Association should contact Bridget Williams at 770-861-1194 or email her at bnwilliams@yahoo.com for details.

Timeless Truths from the Oldest Voices

We are embarking on a study of characters from the Old Testament. We have already looked at the first couple, Adam and Eve, now let's look at a more obscure character.

-OT Lesson 4 The Lesson from Abel - "Obedience Still Speaks"

Genesis 4:1-8, Hebrews 11:4, 1 John 3:12

It's hard to believe that in just one generation there was already the senseless act of murder! It emphasizes the first lesson we learned in August – sin has consequences. Unbelievably this young man was killed without the first opportunity to experience marriage, raising children, enjoying grandchildren, and all the other joys of life that were given to us by our Creator. There is no question that Abel was a God-fearing, God-loving man. His heart was certainly in the right place, the willingness of his unselfish offering to the Lord is the evidence. However, his life was cut short by the wrathful, ungodly action of his older brother. Even in violent death, however, **obedience still speaks!**

In the First John passage, the Bible confirms that Cain was wicked but Abel was godly with the statement, "... *because his works were evil* (speaking here of Cain), *and his brother's righteous.*" The stark difference between living righteously and living selfishly were in clear view for Abel to see. His dad, Adam, had violated the only negative command in the garden and plunged their family into hardships of life that were probably unimaginable. The blessings of having family closeness, warmth and friendship were obviously not regularly experienced in the first family reality. Day in and

day out these two brothers were pitted against the harshness of life and the strain of jealousy and attention. Cain reacted as a fallen creature with "*works that were evil,*" while Abel chose to live righteously and fight against the same pressures and temptations that plagued Cain. Abel rose above the temptation, an example to us all.

Notice how it states in the Hebrews 11 passage that Abel "*obtained witness that he was righteous*" because of his unselfish, genuine obedience of sacrifice. Though his life was cut short, his story and testimony live forever. He is continued to be seen as a righteous God-follower that lived an obedient life. And even though his life ended with a brutal, senseless murder from the hands of his own brother, he continues to speak from the grave the value and everlasting benefit of living through obedience. That's why the author of Hebrews says of Abel, "... *God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.*" Abel's voice is still proclaiming truth while Cain's voice is forever silenced.

Abel is the first name listed in the "Hall of Faith" in Hebrews 11, quite an honor and not something that should be slighted. Being mentioned first, and before the three other older human beings that began this pilgrimage here, speaks volumes of his importance, message, and testimony. Being the first character listed in this very long list of Old Testament heroes of the faith is more than just an honor, it sets the stage regarding what the characteristics of faith must include, it gives a nutshell of what faith requires and why Adam, Eve, and Cain were NOT listed. Abel is not well known in most modern Christian circles, but he should be simply because of his prominence in this Hebrew's passage as well as the verse in 1 John.

Looking at the little information we have on Abel, one can quickly see that he was not one to shy away from giving sacrificially to the Lord. Notice in Genesis 4:4 that Abel brought the "*firstborn*" of his flock (demonstrating faith that God would provide future flocks for his livelihood), and he brought the "*fat*" (meaning the best portion). This tiny bit of evidence is sufficient to conclude that Abel had a genuine love along with great faith toward the Creator, Almighty God. He feared and revered Him truly. This does not teach that God prefers herdsman over dirt farmers. Cain's sacrifice was clearly less substantial, of less quality, and probably not his first fruits. One thing is very clear, Cain did not offer his sacrifice by faith, because it led him to be angry which led way to sin which culminated in murder (v. 5-8). Notice how sin always grows. It never stays stagnant.

The lesson here has to do with legacy. I would like for my life to count for something greater than just some statistic on a board somewhere. I would love for my obedience to continue to speak long after I'm dead and buried, offering to those who knew me a message and a testimony of hope and encouragement, and an example of a true Christ-like lifestyle. Abel gives us this example. He is eternally remembered because of his selfless obedience and how God accepted that as righteousness, and as the writer of Hebrews says, "*he being dead **still speaks.***" Will you continue to speak after you are dead?

Alan J. Morris

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

4206 North Arnold Mill Road, Woodstock

FALL FEST

Free fun for
the whole
family!

face painting - food
door prizes - games
inflatables - crafts
movie on the big screen

Special prize
for the first
150 kids!

Sponsored by Cornerstone Community Church
4206 N. Arnold Mill Road Woodstock, Georgia 30188

www.cchurchonline.org



Saturday
October
8th, 2016

4PM-8PM

4206 N. Arnold Mill Road
Woodstock, Georgia 30188

EVERYONE INVITED

Hightower Associational

Revival

“HE

Was Moved

With

Compassion”

Matthew 9:36

October 9-12, 2016

Nightly Services @ 7:00pm

**Powerful messages from local
Pastors and awesome singing from a
Mass Choir**

**Concord Baptist Church
6905 Concord Road
Cumming, GA**

Rev. Larry Kelley, Pastor of Talking Rock First Baptist Church, underwent open heart/valve replacement surgery on September 16. He was dismissed from the hospital and went home on September 20. He is gaining strength daily.

Larry and Kathy thank everyone for their prayers!

Hopewell Family & Friends
REUNION
BACK TOGETHER AGAIN
October 23, 2016

One hundred and forty years ago, Hopewell Baptist Church was a vision for W.D. Dean, D.J. Maddox, M.B. Tucker, Daniel Putnam, Nancy Putnam, J.W. Putnam, Sarah Putnam, Franklin V. Payne, N.O. Payne, Mary Payne, Sullivan Payne, Lydia Payne, Margaret Payne, Malissa Payne, Lucy Putnam, Martha Putnam, Josh Greer and Nancy Ann Greer.

Bring your friends and family and join us October 23, 2016 as we will be celebrating our 140 anniversary. Service starts at 10:30 and a Harvest Dinner on the grounds after the service.

Hopewell Baptist Church
78 Ridge Road
Canton, GA 30114

For additional information, you may contact Christy Pope, Event Coordinator, at 770-345-5723 or christy.pope@hopewellbaptist.com



Return
to
BETHLEHEM

Saturday, November 26 - Sunday, December 4
7:00 - 9:00 PM



imb.org

BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS

... AND **BECAUSE YOU GIVE**, IMB HELPS CHURCHES SEND MISSIONARIES TO THE BILLIONS **WHO HAVE YET TO HEAR**.

2015 **LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS
NOVEMBER 29–DECEMBER 6



GROWING GROUPS FORUMS

A roundtable discussion for those who work with groups.

A roundtable discussion for those who work with adult groups

October 13, 2016

**Northeast Church
2001 Cherry Drive
Braselton, GA 30517**

For additional information, please call 770-936-5285 or email pcollins@gabaptist.org



November 1, 2 & 3, 2016

The focus at Side by Side will be doing Sunday School and Small Groups in the same church

**November 2: GBMB Ministry Center
6405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth**

**November 3: West Cobb Church
1245 Villa Rica Road, Marietta**

For additional information or to register, visit gabaptist.org/groups

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 2016

- 3 Hightower Baptist Association Preacher/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 6 Talking Rock Baptist Church Food Trailer (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
- 8 Hightower Baptist Association Food/Clothing Bank (7:30 AM - 12:00 Noon)
- 17 Hightower Baptist Association WMU Annual Fall Missions Celebration
- 17 National Boss's Day
- 25 Etowah Baptist Association Annual Meeting (see page 1)
- 25 New Hope Baptist Church (Etowah Association) Food Trailer (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM)
- 31 Halloween

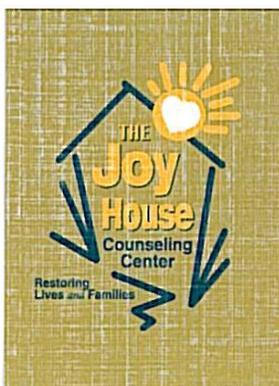
November 2016

- 3 Talking Rock Baptist Church Food Trailer (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
- 7 Hightower Baptist Association Preacher/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 PM
- 8 ELECTION DAY
- 9 Roswell Baptist Association Executive Ministry Team Meeting, Clear Springs Baptist Church, 10:30 AM
Roswell Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, immediately following Executive Meeting at a place TBD
- 12 Hightower Baptist Association Food/Clothing Bank (7:30 AM - 12:00 Noon)
- 14-15 Georgia Baptist Convention Annual Meeting (see page 1)
- 17 Lanier Baptist Association Executive Ministry Team Meeting, Living Stones Church, 10:30 AM
Lanier Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, immediately following Executive Meeting at a place TBD
- 22 New Hope Baptist Church (Etowah Association) Food Trailer (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM)
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Holidays - North Central Area Missions closed
- 29 Etowah Baptist Association Executive Ministry Team Meeting, North Central Area Missions, 10:30 AM
Etowah Baptist Association Pastor's Luncheon, immediately following Executive Meeting at a place TBD



Halloween is
October 31!

Remember to watch
for all the children out
trick or treating!



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