



“Spring  
Forward!”  
March 14

# People of Purpose

Piedmont Baptist Association

March, 2010

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## Church News:

- **Amherst Baptist** is looking for a part time music director. Call the church at 434-946-7823.
- **Ebenezer** is planning a Living Last Supper play on Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. and then Easter Sunrise Service at Poplar Grove Golf Course at 8:00 a.m. on April 4.
- **Jonesboro** has a Christian oriented group called the *Young at Heart* that meets at the church for fellowship meals, crafts, picnics, movies, and programs. They invite you to their next meeting MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>, 3 PM. The theme is "*Valentines Are Not Just For Couples*". Guest speaker will be Michael Tierney. Invite your family and friends, bring a food to share, and come to an evening of fun, and fellowship. Following the meal, those who would like to stay will be viewing the inspiration for the game of life movie *Flywheel*. Call Rev. Wayne Underwood #434-277-8614 or Jeanne Houser # 434-277-8215 for more information.
- **New Prospect** will be hosting the North American Mission Study on Monday, March 22 beginning at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to become more aware of God's transforming power
- **Rockfish Valley Baptist** has a "bunch" of used/old Sunday School literature. If anyone can use it, call Barbara Hardy at 434-361-1253.

## Vacation Bible School

*Roundin' up Questions,  
Drivin' home answers!*

VBS Clinic will be held at the Ministry Center for all Directors and Teachers on Saturday, March 13 at 9:30 a.m.

Saddle up for VBS 2010 where kids will be ridin' the range and roundin' up questions like: "What is God's plan for me?"

*See you at the VBS Clinic!*  
Cristy Ginter



Tough Questions from Kids: *When people die, do they become angels?* Answer on back.

Please note that the Semi-Annual Meeting will be in April. Make plans to attend and be sure your church elects lay-representatives!

## Calendar Events

### March, 2010

- 7-14 **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and prayer for North American Missions**
- 13 **Vacation Bible School Clinic; 9:30 a.m. Ministry Center.**
- 16 **Pastors' Conference 10:30 a.m., Mt. Shiloh Baptist Church**
- 21 **Special Education Day**

### April, 2010

- 4 **Easter Sunday**
- 11 **Cooperative Program Sunday**
- 16-18 **Weekender for Teen Girls "Shine"; Eagle Eyrie**
- 20 **Pastors' Conference - 6 p.m.; St. Stephens**
- 20 **Pastors' Wives Gathering - 6 p.m.; St. Stephens**
- 20 **PBA Semi-Annual "Spring Meeting" - 7:30 p.m.; St. Stephens**
- 26 **PBA Associational Council - 7:30; Ministry Center**

## Director of Missions

In the Gospel according to Luke, we read in chapter 23, verses 44-46, these words: "And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit:' and having said thus, He gave up the ghost." Among the last words of Jesus as He hung on the cross were words of prayer. The prayer Jesus offered is a prayer from the Psalm 31:5, "Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou has redeemed me, O Lord God of truth." Someone has written that these words of David were often used by Jewish parents when they taught their children to pray. Most probably as a child, Jesus was taught this prayer by His earthly parents. It had been a prayer of His life. Can you think of a more beautiful prayer for everyday of life? Can you think of a more suitable prayer for the day on one's death? Jesus had shouted "Finished" in triumph from the cross and now He offered a familiar prayer, the prayer of a child, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit." Jesus reminds us from the cross of a relationship that we have with God through Him-a relationship with God as our Heavenly Father.

As we draw nearer to the holy week of our Lord Jesus Christ, to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Resurrection Sunday, may we each begin to live like God wants us to live. As Paul said to young Timothy, "For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day" (2 Tim. 1:12). We must ask ourselves how we are living. Are we living in a way that we can die by? Jesus could because He lived with this kind of prayer, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit."

I am encouraged to know that some of the churches in the Association with pastoral vacancies have called men as interim pastors. This is a good, first step toward the eventual call of a regular pastor. Please keep all of the churches in your prayers as we all focus our spiritual eyes and our total being on the Lord Jesus Christ in the doing of His ministry! Please read and share our newsletters with one another and be active in Piedmont Baptist Association work, to the glory of God! God Bless!

Israel W. "Jake" Stewart, Jr.  
Interim Director of Missions.



## Pray for the PBA Church of the Week

Mar. 7 Rockfish Valley Bapt. Church  
Mar. 14 Rose Union Bapt. Church  
Mar. 21 St. Stephens Bapt. Church  
Mar. 28 Schuyler Bapt. Church

## Hispanic Ministry

This winter season I have been holding several evangelistic home Bible studies during the week. In these Bible studies, every person gets a sheet of questions on a particular topic or passage of Scripture and then answers the question based on what the Scripture says. Many of the questions involve different options to choose from. I have found this method a good way to help Hispanics to discover the truth of Scripture for themselves and lay a foundation for salvation.

Praise the Lord! One of the ladies who attend Nueva Vida, Jakeline Escobar, has loaned the congregation a drum set. We have a drummer, a guitar player, and a keyboardist now. These musicians participated in a Hispanic service at First Baptist Dilwyn recently with me. Melquiades Hernandez led the service and Eduardo Acevedo gave his testimony, while Genaro Lopez played the piano and Ronnie Gomez played the guitar. What a blessing to have other Hispanic men sharing in the work of the ministry!

Let me share with you some interesting things about Hispanic morality. Alex Montoya, in his book Hispanic Ministry in North America shares four positive aspects of Hispanic morality:

1. "La Persona" (the person) - Hispanics are people oriented more than task-oriented. It is more important to them to gain your friendship than to have your business.

2. Hospitality - If Hispanics invite you into their home they will offer you something to eat or drink. Often they will visit you unannounced.
3. "La verguenza"- (a sense of shame) Anglo Christian women are considered, by Hispanic standards, to be immodest in dress and behavior.
4. "El dolor" - (the pain) "People accustomed to not having, to suffering, to hurting, to enduring pain without complaining are best able to show God's power over difficult circumstances ...Hispanics are not afraid of "dirty work" or "humble circumstances." They also make fearless fighters and courageous athletes." (p. 134)

I believe that we as anglos can learn from our Hispanic neighbors and brothers and sisters in Christ, don't you?

Evan Johnson

Hispanic Ministries Coordinator, PBA

## PERMANENT WMU WATCHWORD

"Labourers together with God" (1Cor. 3:9KJV)

Volunteers are needed to assist in preparations for Crossroads' 25th Anniversary Celebration  
(May 22, 2010).

Please contact Betty Shelton at 277-8620 or email  
([feshel@ceva.net](mailto:feshel@ceva.net)).



The Center for Baptist Heritage & Studies has announced its Young Scholars Essay Contest for 2010. The theme is *Peace-bearers for the World in Which We Live*. The contest is open to all 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders who attend a Baptist church in Virginia. The purpose is to promote a better understanding of Baptist and Christian heritage and to encourage our young people to express their ideas. Our tag line is "remembering the past...imagining the future" and the essay incorporates both concepts.

Three winners may be chosen with \$500 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$300 for 2<sup>nd</sup> and \$200 for 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Go to the Heritage Center's website [www.baptistheritage.org](http://www.baptistheritage.org) and click on Essay Contest to learn the rules, criteria and eligibility. The deadline for submissions is April 15.

**Tough Question Answer:** No, we don't become angels when we die. Like us, angels are created by God, but they are different from human beings. When we die, we will leave our physical bodies and will be given glorified, or perfect, bodies in heaven. We don't know exactly what our glorified bodies will be like, but we know that people in heaven will be able to recognize us.