



SBAOC Weekly Update

SBAOC ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, October 23

9:00 a.m. (CST)

via Microsoft Teams

Please register to attend as soon as possible by emailing Terry Coker at: Terry.coker@SBAOC.onmicrosoft.com.

We look forward to adding new churches into the membership of the Association at our annual meeting!



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NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any news, prayer requests, or events that you would like to have included in this update, please email the information to Tony Mattia at spurgeonassociation@gmail.com or call us at 785-456-8513.

TRUE FELLOWSHIP

1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

2 Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

3 We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

4 When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

5 This glorious hope revives

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PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

"If there is no church... should you not commence one?" C. H. Spurgeon

COMMENTS ON OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

Who, when nature is dissolving, earth is receding, eternity is opening, is in a condition to weigh, examine, and sift the evidences of the divinity of the Scriptures? The earnest, imploring language of such a one, alive to a conviction of sin and danger, is, "Is there pardon, is there salvation, is there hope for such a sinner as I am? Does the Word of God tell me how I may be saved? Read to me of Christ. Tell me of the Savior. Point me to the Lamb of God. Direct my eye to the cross, and let me behold Him Whose blood cleanses from all sin. Read to me, speak to me, tell me only of JESUS."

—Octavius Winslow

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our courage by the way;
while each in expectation lives
and waits to see the day.

6 From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

John Fawcett (1739? -1818)

True Fellowship

"That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His son Jesus Christ." 1 John 1:3

John begins this verse by reminding us that he was an eyewitness for he was declaring or preaching what he had seen and heard of Jesus Christ the Word of Life along with the other apostles. John concluded that believers "have fellowship with us." Human fellowship is especially important. Our Lord said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2;18). When man was created, he had a relationship with his Creator and after that there was established a human relationship. Man needed a connection with others physically and spiritually. Man is born into this world with a close connection to his mother through the umbilical cord and then there proceeds a maternal and paternal connection. Then in marriage there is a connection that God placed great restrictions on to protect. Then spiritually when a person is regenerated by God the Holy Spirit and then brought to repentance of sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ there is an establishment of an unbreakable relationship with the Lord. There is then to be a relationship with a New Testament Church. These connections or relationships are fellowships.

The local church is sometimes called "a fellowship of believers." This is Biblical, of course, for that is an accurate description of a local church. The Greek word for "fellowship" is *koinonia*. This word in Classical Greek referred to the marriage relationship in that it referred to a shared life. Hermann Cremer explained "fellowship always denotes a relation, as between persons based on Christian unity." In a fellowship, believers are a part of and have a part in that fellowship. This is the word that John used in our text which refers to a communion or partnership among believers in a called-out assembly of worshippers of the God of heaven and earth.

When Adam fell, the fellowship with God was broken between God and man. Only an act of the offended God the Father sending God the Son to make a substitutionary atonement, and God the Holy Spirit applying that

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UPCOMING EVENTS

SBAOC Annual Meeting— October 23 at 9:00 am (CST) via Microsoft Teams. Please email Terry Coker at Terry.coker@SBAOC.onmicrosoft.com to register to attend.

2022 National Founders Conference—January 20-23, 2022. McGregor Baptist Church, Fort Myers, FL. Theme: *Militant & Triumphant: The Doctrine of the Church*. Speakers: Tom Ascol, Jared Longshore, Voddie Baucham, Conrad Mbewe, & James Coates. Early registration is open at founders.org/2022conference.

True Church Conference—February 17-20, 2022. Grace Life Church of the Shoals, Florence, AL. Registration will open October 1, 2021. Theme: "Healthy Body Life in the Local Church: Biblical Church Discipline, Biblical Counseling, Biblical Conflict Resolution / Protecting the Sheep from Savage Wolves." Speakers Richard Caldwell, Darrell Harrison, Barry King, David Miller, Jeff Noblit, Jonathan Sims, & Virgil Walker. www.anchoredintruth.org/true-church-conference

If you have a conference or event that you would like listed here, contact Tony Mattia at spurgeonassociation@gmail.com.

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atonement to one, can there be a re-establishment of fellowship with God by salvation. John also concluded that the origination of that fellowship relates to our relationship with the persons of the Godhead, for God the Holy Spirit led John to write, "Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His son Jesus Christ." "Our fellowship" could be translated "the fellowship, that which is ours." Our relationship with God the Father is totally related to our relationship with Christ. Our access to this fellowship is by faith in Christ (Rom. 5:2).

Our fellowship is really and truly with the Father through His Son Jesus Christ. This was illustrated to an old Scottish preacher who had been visiting the poor in a large Scottish city. He was pointed to a garret-room at the top of a high house. He was told that there was a poor old lady there about whom few knew. So, he climbed up the steep stairs until he reached the garret-room. As he was admitted to the room he looked around. He saw a bed, a chair, a table with a candle on it, an exceedingly small fire on the hearth, and a very elderly lady sitting with a large New Testament on her lap. The preacher asked her what she was doing. Her reply was that she was reading. He then asked, "Don't you feel lonely here?" Her quick reply was, "Na, na!" He then asked, "What do you do here all these long winter nights?" "Oh," she declared, "I just sit here, wi' me light, and wi' me fire, and wi' me Testament on my knees, talking wi' Jesus." John said, "Truly our fellowship [not was but] is ... with His Son Jesus Christ."

Pastor John Fawcett, the writer of "Blest be the tie that binds," was the pastor of a small but poor Baptist fellowship of believers at Wainsgate, Yorkshire, England. His salary was exceedingly small and inadequate to really care for his family. So, when Dr. John Gill died, he was called to London to succeed the eminent doctor. He preached his farewell sermon to the little congregation. When the wagons were loaded for the move to the metropolis, the sorrowing church members arrived to see them off. They had been an affectionate people to their pastor and now they were grieving and pleading with him to not leave them. Pastor Fawcett and his wife were overcome. They just sat down and wept. Mrs. Fawcett, looking in the face of her husband, said, "Oh John, John, I cannot bear this. I know not how to go." John agreed. He turned to those who operated the van and they seemed to realize what had happened and willingly unloaded the furniture. There was great joy among the fellowship of believers that day to know their pastor would continue to shepherd them. This precipitated Pastor John Fawcett writing "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above." This day proved that the fellowship of the saints is more to be desired than money or physical comforts. He later turned down being principal of Bristol College and lived out his days with this fellowship of believers. "Feed my sheep," said the Great Shepherd.

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PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND REVIVAL

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.



Baptist Association of Churches