



The Baptist Life

A Monthly Publication of The Middle Florida Baptist Association
Connecting Baptist Churches in Jefferson, Madison And Lafayette Counties

February 2021

Middle Florida Baptist Association

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Budget Update as of January 31

Year To Date Budget Receipts	\$ 7,637.22
Year To Date Goal	\$ 6,705.00
Year To Date Expenditures	\$ 6,490.25

Please pray for our churches and pastors

Bethel Creek

Beulah

Brewer Lake

Central

Cherry Lake First

Concord

Elizabeth

Faith

Fellowship

Greenville

Harmony

Hopewell

Lamont

Lee First

Macedonia

Madison First

Mayo

Midway

Morningstar

Mount Olive

New Home

New Macedonia

Olive

Pine Grove

Pinetta First

Pleasant Grove

Riverside

Sirmans

Saint John's

The Journey

Unity

Chad Little

Greg Ragans

Michael Hornback

Daryl Adams

Murrell Bennett

Jamie Ford

Sammy Hiers (I)

John Myrick

Jackie Watts

Shaun Gay

Billy Rice

Mark Holley

Lucas Morgan

Trent Abbott

Gabe Krell

Rick James

Matt Thompson

Joe Rowe

Will Jacobs

Chris Roth

Dave Musgrave

David During

Michael Bass

Allen Hawkins

Keith Grimes

Bryant Thigpen

Wayne Hudson

Pat Raulerson

Jerry Buchanan

(I) indicates interim pastor

All Around The Middle

There is much for which I am grateful these days. I am grateful for Joe Rowe who did such a good job putting together our first George Liele Banquet. I had to be out of town, but have only heard good things about the event including Mickey Starling's article in the newspaper.

Also, I am grateful for Lauren Churchwell doing such a fine job when I abruptly left town with several projects needing attention. Lauren stepped-in and saw to it that things were completed properly and on time. It is comforting to me to know that when I have to be away, I can count on Lauren doing what is needed without me having to worry one bit.

Of course, I am grateful to serve the people and churches of our Association. You have been kind, encouraging and supportive during the recent busy days in the life of our family. Working with you is a delight.

But over the last few weeks I have been most grateful for my family. Many of you know that Kim had moved to North Carolina to care for her ailing mother and to help our daughter, Laura, who has Multiple Sclerosis.

Kim's mother passed away February 7 in North Carolina. She was surrounded by family and was at peace with her Savior. We buried her in Mississippi on February 13. Through it all, we were strengthened by the promises of Jesus. Thank you for your prayers and expressions of love. It means a great deal to Kim and me.

Share Your Information

If you have information about your church or its people that you would like shared on our web site, Facebook page, calendar or newsletter, please let us know. Contact our office staff any time. If we need to make any corrections, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Transitions

Delton Beall is retiring at the end of February.

Many of you know Delton through his work with Florida Baptist Disaster Relief where he has been director for several years. He and his wife Jeannie will still live in the Panama City area. He looks forward to being available to preach at your invitation.

Children's Mission Day

The second annual Children's Mission Day was held on Saturday, February 13, at Fellowship Church. Thank you to all who helped make this day a great success!

There were about 50 children and adults in attendance. Donations were collected for the Food Pantry at Fellowship, Lafayette Heath and Rehab and A Women's Pregnancy Center. Almost \$3,500 was raised for A Women's Pregnancy Center with the baby bottle coin collection.



George Liele Banquet

The first annual George Liele Banquet was held Thursday, February 11 at Fellowship Church to celebrate the work of evangelists, church planters and missionaries. Members from various churches throughout our Association and Madison County were in attendance to reflect on the life and legacy of George Liele, a freed slave in Colonial America who in 1782 became the first Baptist missionary from the newly formed United States.

The evening was developed by Joe Rowe, pastor of Morningstar Church with the help of many others. The keynote speaker was Rev. Mike



Miller, pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Alachua. Miller's inspiring message stressed the importance of allowing the Holy Spirit to use you to bring others into His Kingdom. Guests of the banquet also enjoyed a delicious meal and dessert, served by Association volunteers.

Camp Pickett Lake Work Day

There are a couple of projects at Camp Pickett Lake for which volunteers are needed. The next workday is scheduled for Saturday, March 27. Work will begin at 8:30 and lunch will be provided.

Some projects could involve working with sheet metal, so plan to bring a good pair of work gloves. There may be other smaller projects to complete as well. For more information contact camp manager, Tim Kinsey at 386-249-1123.

Human Life Protection Amendment

Remember to mail your signed petition forms for adding a proposed constitutional amendment to the 2022 ballot that will protect human life. Please send them to Protect Human Life Florida. We will mail them for you if you bring them to us.

If you have not yet done so, you can find the petition and other information by visiting their website: <https://humanlifefl.com/petition/>

Association Office Work Day

Before spring arrives next month, we could use your help with some pruning and cleaning at the Association office. We have very few tools here, so please bring your shears, trimmers, saws and other tools you could use to help trim bushes and trees. You should probably also bring a good pair of work gloves.

If you would help, join us on Saturday morning, February 27 at 9:00 am. We look forward to seeing you then.

Campers On Mission: Tow Vehicle Needed

Fred and Karen Batagnani are members of Lee First Church and are active members of Campers On Mission. Campers On Mission is a group of volunteers who travel to ministry-related construction work sites and camp there while they help with the project taking place.



The Batagnanis need to replace the truck they had been using to tow their camper to various work sites through the years. They are looking for a truck that can pull their 35-foot long fifth-wheel camper. They have no particular preference regarding the make or color of the truck, but it should have an 8-foot long bed. They would prefer $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1-ton truck as long as it has the towing capacity is 10,000 pounds or more and they would rather it have an automatic transmission. They are flexible on some items such as it being a single rear wheel or dually or a gas or diesel engine. With all the traveling they will do, they would prefer an extended or crew cab with amenities associated with traveling such as blue tooth, leather seats, back-up camera, navigation system and such. It should have brake assist or a tow-haul feature. They expect it will be a 2007 model or newer, but are most interested in lower mileage and the condition of the truck. They have a budget of around \$20,000.

If you know of a truck like that, the seller can contact them at (850) 464-4930 or (850) 973-2474. Thank you.

Ministry Opportunity For Singers

Lake Park of Madison Nursing and Rehabilitation is looking for churches to come and sing to their residents. The singing will take place outdoors for the purposes of social distancing. If you or your church group are interested, please contact Maggie Kelley, Activities Director at (850) 973-8277. This is a great opportunity to share the love of Jesus with those who cannot attend church services easily.

Boston Butt Fundraiser For Tessa Andrews

Pinetta First Church is having a Boston Butt Fundraiser for Tessa Andrews, who continues to serve as a missionary in Haiti. Johnston's Meat Market, in Monticello, is providing the butts, which are on sale now for \$25. The butts will be available for pick up at Pinetta First Church on Saturday, April 2, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Orders can be placed on the church's Facebook page or by sending an email to:

gailwashington321@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

MARCH 2021

- 9 Association Council meets at 6:00 pm
- 11 Zoom Meeting to discuss proposed bylaws – 7:00 pm (link to join will be provided)
- 14 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 20 Seven Gables Food Ministry in Mayo – 8:00 to 10:00 am
- 27 Camp Pickett Lake workday – begins at 8:30
- 28 Palm Sunday

APRIL 2021

- 1 Maundy Thursday
- 2 Good Friday
- 4 Resurrection Day (Easter)
- 11 Semi-Annual Meeting – Central Baptist Church in Aucilla
- 17 Seven Gables Food Ministry in Mayo – 8:00 to 10:00 am

MAY 2021

- 1 Mother's Day Tea – 10:00 am to 12:00 noon – location TBD
- 9 Mother's Day
- 11 Association Council meets at 6:00 pm
- 15 Seven Gables Food Ministry in Mayo – 8:00 to 10:00 am
- 15 Disaster Relief Training in Perry – 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at Perry First Church
- 31 Memorial Day – Association office closed

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