



The Grapevine



Gatlin Creek Baptist Church



From The Pastor's Pen

Dr. Don Prevatt

Volume 1, Issue 25

April 2010

Wow! I've said that a lot of late—in response to last week's revival, in reaction to spring's annual color fest, in reflecting on the church's response to the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations and, in general, at the magnitude of God's grace. Who is like our God, Isaiah asked. With whom shall you compare Him? The answer of course, is no one. He alone is God. He acts according to His own character and for His own purposes. In all of my thoughts toward God, one thought stands out: He allows me to partner with Him in all of His enterprises—loving the lost, feeding the poor, rescuing the oppressed, culture revitalizations, personal makeovers. The list is without end for God's work and areas of concern are limitless. He cares for you. He cares for me. He cares for your neighbor and mine. Wow! The love of God is without end. Because our God is so amazing we can face the

future with full confidence. Through the Town Hall meetings and all that followed, we have identified some weaknesses that need attention and we have determined the direction the Lord is leading our church—toward excellence and discipleship. During our April 14th conference the Ad Hoc Committee chairperson's will make a progress report and a timeline for the initial changes. A more complete timeline will follow after appropriate committees have been formed and/or contacted. Also, the chairman of the personnel committee, the chairman and vice chairman of deacons and I have met regarding potential staffing. There are obvious needs for a youth pastor, children's director, administrator/co-pastor and an administrative assistant. It's obvious we can't fill all of these positions immediately. But I believe the Lord will lead us in determining which ones should be filled immediately and

when to fill the others. Please pray with us as we seek not just a person to fill a slot, but God's person for the position. I can't think of a more important object of prayer than getting the right person for the ministries God has called us to complete. Also, if you know of someone who may be interested in and qualified for these opening, please let someone know. The greatest blessing in the world is to be a part of God's church. Through the church we experience the fullness of God's manifold grace, we make close friends, we bear one another's burdens, and, as the hymn states: "we often shed a sympathizing tear."

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Our Purpose.....

Our sole purpose as a church is to glorify God by effectively fulfilling the **Great Commission** and actively living the **Great Commandment**.

Our Mission...

HIS COMMISSION:
Matthew 28:18-20
Go . . . make disciples of all nations.
HIS COMMANDMENT:
Matthew 22: 37-40
...love the Lord your God with all your heart....
love your neighbor as yourself.

Music Ministry

Rev. Mark Scott

It's hard to believe that it's been almost nine years since Julie and I were called to serve as your Minister of Music Team at Gatlin Creek Baptist Church. It's even harder to believe that God is really calling us to leave. It's harder still, to find words to express how much we love our church family and how much we will miss all of you.

When we first started attending church at Gatlin Creek, Clay was a middle schooler, Rebecca was a pre-teen and Rosemary was just a toddler. We could not have asked for a better family to help raise our family. It's easy to see how the kids have

grown and matured over the years, but Julie and I have grown tremendously as well. Thank you to all the men who have met for Friday Breakfast, Men's Fellowship, and all those turkey smoking sessions through the years. You have challenged me by your examples of how to live as a Godly man and you have all held me accountable and helped me to grow.

Thank you to the women who baked all of those wonderful casseroles and desserts over the years! More importantly, thank you for all of the love you have shown to us. Thanks for taking care of us, and for teaching the kids in Sunday School,

GA's and AWANA's. Thanks to all of you who have been such good friends and confidants to Julie.

We are truly going to miss all of you and it's hard to imagine how we will possibly be able to find a church in Albany that's feels as much like home as Gatlin Creek. "May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace." Num 6:24-26

Mark and Julie Scott



A Note From Our Pastor continued

Dr. Don Prevatt

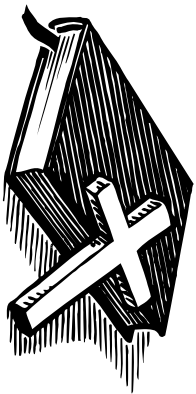
The busy-ness of today's society hinders us from really getting to know one another. Sure, we know someone's name, where they live, the names of their children, etc. But, do we really know them? Honestly? No! We want to do something about that and we want to be very intentional about it. During our next conference the Church Planning Committee will make a recommendation that during the months of June and July (we have already agreed on a modified summer schedule with just one worship service), instead of meeting at the church for an evening worship service, we will conduct **Salt Shaker** meetings in individual homes. The idea is real

simple. A group of 3 or 4 families will meet in a different home each Sunday night for a month. You can also use this occasion to invite lost friends & loved ones to a non-churchy event. There will be a devotional, family style meal, conversation and genuine Christian fellowship. It will help us get to know one another better. The next month you will be a part of another group meeting in other homes. Then our regular church schedule will resume when school starts back. It's different. Give it some thought and lots of prayer. One of the glaring deficiencies I see with all the modern media—cell phones, Face book, Twitter, texting—is that we are always in

touch but fail to experience true community. Salt Shakers will address that need.

As always, I'm grateful for the privilege of being your pastor. We have been through some hard times of late, but you have been faithful. When additional work was needed, you rolled up your sleeves and went to work. Where grace and forgiveness was in order, you responded willingly. In short: You have done well church. I'm proud of you and I am grateful to be your pastor. Please continue to pray for your church. God is at work among us. To fail to pray is to fail.

I'll see you Sunday with Bible in hand. Brother Don



April 2010

Gatlin Creek
Baptist Church
2031 Gatlin Creek Road
Thomasville, Georgia

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					Good Friday	
4 Easter Sunrise 7:30 am Breakfast 8:00 am Sunday School 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			No Wednesday Night Supper			
Deacons' Meeting 4:00 pm		Visitation 6:30 pm				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Visitation 6:30 pm				
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Planning Cmte 4:00 pm		Visitation 6:30 pm				

Childrens Corner

Sheila Smith



Thank you to everyone who helped make the Annual Easter Egg Hunt a success. We hid over 500 eggs thanks to your donations! A HUGE thank you to Ms Mary and Ms Bell for working in the kitchen and to the youth -- Krystal, Joey, Steven, Kylie, and Caroline -- who helped us hide the eggs and serve the food!

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

Early Morning Worship 8:30 A.M.
 Sunday School 9:45 A.M.
 Late Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
 Evening Worship & Discipleship Classes 6:00 P.M.

The Record Speaks

March Offerings	\$ 29,085.16
March Budget	\$ 29,998.26
March Deficit	\$ - 913.10
YTD Offerings	\$ 178,885.22
YTD Budget	\$ 209,987.82
Budget Deficit	\$ - 31,102.60

Birthdays & Anniversaries*

April 2

Gert Bothof

April 4

Martha Gibbs

Lisa Hughes

April 5

Brian Allensworth

Phyllis Cox

April 7

Dave & Angela Broadway

April 8

Jessica Barrow

Andrew Rollins

April 9

April Cody Wilson

Todd & Rhonda Taylor

April 10

Gail Castleberry

April 10

Mandy Fletcher

Anne Willingham

April 11

Laurn Cooley

April 13

Gary Hayes

April 14 Michael Fallin

April 16

Rhonda Taylor

April 17

Ramona Black

April 18

Joel Grim

April 19

Karen Coffee

Sherry Moore

Dana Rollins

April 20

Tania Amara

Caden Marsh

April 21

Shirley Wilson

April 24

Jack Southerland

Charles & Shirley Wilson

April 26

Chris Waters

April 30

Angie Broadway

Jake Milam



Please notify the church office
 of any changes or additions.
 225-1154



Walk for Life

Saturday, April 17 ~ 9:00 a.m.
at Cherokee Lake in Thomasville

The Pregnancy Center of Southwest Georgia will be hosting its fourth annual two mile "Walk for Life". All support will directly benefit the Center, serving both Grady and Thomas counties. May women and men will be ministered to this year.

Will you walk along side us?

Free T-shirts, prizes and giveaways!

See Jeanne Wilcox to sign up or call 224-9554.

Family Update

Dr. Richard Hughes

God continued, "The cries of the victims in Sodom and Gomorrah are deafening; the sin of those cities is immense. I'm going down to see for myself, see if what they're doing is as bad as it sounds. ... The men set out for Sodom, but Abraham stood in God's path, blocking his way.

Abraham confronted him, "Are you serious? Are you planning on getting rid of the good people right along with the bad? ... Wouldn't you spare the city for the sake of those fifty innocents? I can't believe you'd do that, kill off the good and the bad alike as if there were no difference between them. Doesn't the Judge of the entire Earth judge with justice?"

God said, "If I find fifty decent people in the city of Sodom, I'll spare the place just for them."

Synergy: The interaction of two or more agents or forces so that their combined effect is greater than the

sum of their individual effects.

I am a **strong** believer in the notion that when opposing forces with different ideas, diverse beliefs about how things work, the same goals and the right heart get together, something wonderful usual spurts outs. There is **nothing** that motivates me more to refine my own thinking, straighten my paths, and improve my ideas than a good argument to my position.

Our church has been a wondrous example of this process of synergy. A large group of unlike-minded thinkers came together (over food, of course) last fall and began a process of seeking God's voice, listening to each other and mapping out needed improvement in our church life, our ministries and our worship. Through a season of prayer, discussion and pointing/counter-pointing, the appointed ad hoc committees proposed a list of almost 30 recommendations, which

all passed peacefully and unanimously.

I would like to applaud...

... the church leadership for taking such an innovative step in addressing the needs and distractions of our church

...the ad hoc committee for their commitment and their hours of work in making sure that the voice of the people and the will of God was heard and heeded in their final recommendations

...our church body as a whole for being an example of what a group of believers can do when the main thing is the main thing.

I believe there are great days ahead for us. Lord, may the spurting begin!