

Annie Armstrong was an advocate and supporter of mission efforts throughout the world, a tireless servant of God.

Prayer Concerns:

- Lost Souls
- Governments/leaders (local/state/ national/world) 1Tim.2:1-2
- Our congregations
- Our Association's ministries
- Those who are sick
- Those dealing with loss of loved ones

MEMBER CHURCHES & MISSIONS

Agape Bethel Blitchton FBC Brooklet FBC Cedar Street Christ Clito Eastern Heights Eldora Elmer Emit Grove Excelsion Fletcher Memorial Friendship Iglesia Cristiana Hispana Lawrence Leefield Lighthouse Macedonia Metter FBC New Life Oak Grove Old Fellowship Olive Branch Pine Grove Portal FBC Pulaski Register Salem SonLight Community Southbridge Community Statesboro FBC Statesboro Mision Bautista Bethel Statesboro Korean Mission Temple Hill Trinity Union

Ogeechee River Baptist Association A Family of Churches Making Christ Known

Ogeechee Missions Visionary

MARCH 2025

From Our Missionary

Welcome to Spring!

Okay, I know spring hasn't officially begun (that won't happen until March 20), but the signs are all around us—flowers are beginning to bloom, trees are budding with new growth, the days are getting longer, and of course, that fine yellow dust (a.k.a. pollen) is covering everything in sight!

As the seasons change, we are reminded of the truth found in Ecclesiastes 3:1: "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." While times and seasons change, we can rest in the assurance that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8) and that His Word is firmly fixed in heaven (Psalm 119:89). It is my privilege to serve as your associational missionary. I'm here to support you in a variety of ways, including consultations on church life and ministry. If you ever need someone for pulpit supply or a ministry event, I'd be honored to help. I look forward to serving alongside you in 2025 and beyond! In Christ, Jeff

Updates & Reminders

Strategy Development Process

By now, you've likely heard that our association has embarked on a strategy development process. To guide us in this important work, we've partnered with Encouraging and Equipping Church Leaders, Inc. This visioning process is crucial as we seek to discern God's will and explore how we can more effectively

reach our region—and the world—with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastors should have received a packet containing two **Confidential Question-naires**—one for the pastor and one for a staff member or church member of their choosing. Please complete these at your earliest convenience and return them via email (*Jimmy@EEMinistries.com*) or use the enclosed, self-addressed stamped envelope.

I also ask that you and your church join us in **prayer** over the next ninety days. This is an intensely spiritual process, and it can only be accomplished through spiritual means. Your prayers, time, and participation are deeply appreciated!

Third Thursday Minister Roundtables

According to Lifeway Research, **64% of pastors** express a desire to strengthen relationships with other pastors and welcome guidance from those who have faced or are facing similar challenges. Our next **Third Thursday Minister Roundtable** will be held on **March 20 at 10:00 AM** at the associational office. This gathering is a time for **prayer**, **fellowship**, **and peer learning** among ORBA ministers. All ministers and staff members in the association are welcome!

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March Birthdays

Bob Green	1
Tripp Pagliarullo	1
Jim Savage	3
Bobbie Jo Nasworthy	15
Jordan Bryan	10
Nancy Eason	18
Lydia Fowle r	20
Charlotte Pagliarullo	22
David Barnes	23

For Pastors ...

Ricky Thrasher with the Georgia Baptist Mission Board has shared this info.

Travis Hughes and his wife live just south of Memphis, TN in Hernando, MS, and they have recently finished building an apartment to use for missionaries traveling though the area or ones that are needing a place to call "home" while on furlough.

Pastors and their families can use it as well if they want a free place to stay for a get-away from their area for a vacation.

Basic details:

- 1 private bath.
- 1 queen bed, 1 pull out couch, 1 queen size lofted bed.
- 1 small kitchen and living area with access to our full size kitchen in our home.
- private entrance and parking spot.
- laundry facilities
- 1 vehicle they can use.

If interested, call or email Travis Hughes (815-355-1611) to get on the calendar!

News from Our

BETHEL

Sun., 3/16 - Tues., 3/18

REVIVAL!

Chris Reynolds preaching each service. On Sunday morning, the "Voices of Truth" from Brewton Parker College will be leading the music, and Julian Ward will lead the music for the other services. We'd love to have you join us!

March Anniversaries

Joe & Nancy Eason5John & Cynthia Waters10Albert & Debbie Hodges11Scott & Thena Redding20Byron & Marcia Twigg27



Photo from Grice Connect | originally from the Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce Christian Social Ministries has added a new store location (2429 Northside Dr. W., Statesboro). For more info on their opening see the 2/16 & 2/21 articles on Grice Connect.

CSM: Food Pantry (31 N. Zetterower Ave., Statesboro) Open from 8 a.m. until noon

On 3 Mondays this month: March 3rd, 17th & 31st



FBC BORO Counseling

"Facing life's challenges with hope"

The FBC Counseling Ministry is centered on the belief that the Bible has real answers for the real problems that people face in life today. It involves counselors coming alongside individuals, understanding their needs, and then using the Word of God to provide hope and the tools to help them handle the challenges of life in a manner pleasing to God.

Each of our counselors has completed a rigorous certification program and is a Certified Biblical Counselor from the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). The coordinator of the Counseling Ministry has a Master's Degree in Biblical Counseling (MABC). There is no charge for the counseling and you do not need to be a member of FBC to receive counseling.

With few exceptions, counseling is conducted in a designated counseling room at the church Monday through Friday by appointment.

If you think our services could be of help to you, please call 912-489-7907 to schedule a confidential appointment.

<u>Camp "I AM" 2025</u>	
REGISTRATION has begun!!!	
Theme:	
Who Am I? A New Creation.	
CAMP "I AM" Junior	
June 30 – July 3, 2025	
CAMP "I AM" Senior	
July 7 – July 11, 2025	
July $7 = July 11, 2023$	
This month's planning meeting	
at ORBA (17 N. College St.)	
Tuesday, March 11th @ 7p.m.	
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Clinical Pastoral Education Class

Enrollment for Summer 2025 Clinical Pastoral Education is Open. Deadline for application is April 7, 2025. Semester start date is May 5, 2025.

Ogeechee Area Hospice is partnering with Clinical Pastoral Education International (CPEI), to offer opportunities for local pastors, ministers, & lay-leaders to participate in CPEI's CPE training program. CPEI is affiliated with the American Association of Christian Counselors (aacc.net) and is a US Dept. of Education accredited program through DEAC.

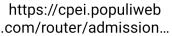
Chaplain Nick Spletstoser (MDiv, MS, BCC), of Ogeechee Area Hospice, serves as the Supervisor Educator for OAH's CPE program, and we are currently enrolling students for the Summer Semester. Internship sites can include your location of ministry. High School diploma required for a Certificate in Chaplaincy. Master's Degree in ministry required for Board Certified Chaplain (BCC).

To inquire about this course or learn more about this opportunity to expand your pastoral counseling and care skills and certification, contact Nick Spletstoser at 912-764-8441 or <u>nspletstoser@oahospice.org</u>. To learn more about CPEI and our training program visit <u>https://cpei.edu</u>.

QR Code included for easy registration.

Blessings, Nick <u>Nick Spletstoser</u> Senior Hospice Chaplain, MDiv, MS, BCC **Ogeechee Area Hospice** On the web: <u>www.ogeecheeareahospice.org</u> On Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/oahospice</u>

**We Honor Vets Level 4 Partner ** (www.wehonorveterans.org) CPE Supervisor/Educator





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Bi-Vocational Pastors & Wives Summit Saturday, March 15 | 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

First Baptist Church, Statesboro

Sponsored by the Middle Baptist Association and ORBA, this summit is designed to encourage and equip **bivocational pastors and their wives** in their unique ministry roles. We are honored to welcome special guests:

• Mark Clifton (North American Mission Board)

• Thomas Hammond (Executive Director, Georgia Baptist Mission Board)

Attendees will have the opportunity to choose from several breakout sessions tailored to their needs. **This event is free, but registration is required.** To register, visit: <u>Middle Baptist Association Events</u>.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (AAEO) is the primary way Southern Baptists fund missions across North America. Every dollar given goes directly to the field, supporting more than 3,000 missionary families serving in the U.S. and Canada.

Week of Prayer: March 2–9

Missionaries are bringing the Gospel to **unreached communities** across North America. Please pray that God will open hearts and empower these missionaries to disciple new believers.

This year's national offering goal is \$78 million. Your gifts help make this possible!

For more information, visit: Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

OGEECHEE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

17 North College Street Statesboro, GA 30458 Phone: 912-764-3620 Fax: 912-489-4566 Website: www.orbalife.org OR visit us on Facebook Moderator: Tony Pagliarullo Associational Missionary: Jeff Parmer E-mail: orbamissionary@orbalife.org Admin. Assistant: Debbie Marotte E-mail: orbaoffice@orbalife.org

W.W. Mann Retreat Center

2171 Prather Rd Statesboro, GA 30461 Phone: 912-842-2460 Fax: 912-842-2464 Website: www.mann-center.org OR visit us on Facebook Director: Mike Sparks E-mail: bradwellalum69@yahoo.com Maintenance: Duane Davis

March Calendar

- 2 BCM's DNow; Location TBD
- 2-9 Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Offering
- 3 Pre-registration for Camp "I AM" Begins [Call ORBA Office (912-764-3620) for Forms]
- 6 [GBMB] Worship & Music Roundtable
- 7-9 [GBMB] ReCharge Ministry Couples Retreat
- 9 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 11 Camp "I AM" Planning Meeting; ORBA Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 [GBMB] Worship & Music Roundtable
- 16 [SBC] Church Planting Emphasis Day
- 17 [GBMB] Pastor Wellness Quail Hunt
- 22 [GBMB] Northern Missions Summit
- 25 Sr. Adult Spring Fling; Friendship, 11:30 a.m. 2 p.m.
- 27 Associational Executive Council Meeting; ORBA Office, 9:00 a.m.
- 27-28 [GBMB] Discover GA Baptist: New Pastors Orientation
- 28-29 [GBMB] Hispanic Women Spring Event
- 31 [GBMB] Retool (South)

April Calendar

- 8 Camp "I AM" Planning Meeting; ORBA Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 [GBMB] BCM Equip
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 18 Good Friday, ORBA Office Closed
- 20 Easter (Resurrection Sunday)
- 22 Associational WMU Meeting/Banquet; Statesboro FBC, 6:30 p.m.
- 25-26 [GBMB] Georgia Baptist Women's Spring Event; Abilene Church in Martinez, GA
- 27 [SBC] Baptism Sunday



\$25 Pregnancy Test
\$100 Option Counseling
\$300 Ultrasound of the unborn baby Love & Support

Free

SAVE LIVES by being a part of Choices Baby Bottle Boomerang! Contact us TODAY and schedule your church to participate. Choices of the Heart 912-764-4303 choicesoftheheartprc@gmail.com www.choicesoftheheart/friends.com

VBS Trainings ...

Prepare for Vacation Bible School by attending one of this year's training sessions.

- Best way to develop your volunteer team, gain valuable training, network with others, and build momentum and excitement for your VBS.
- -Designed to equip your church leadership and volunteers to create an excellent, safe, and effective VBS for your church and community.

The first Saturday event has past, but there are 5 more:

March 1st Ivy Creek Baptist Church 2500 Ivy Creek Road Buford, GA

[Hispanic Training] March 8th FBC Kennesaw 2958 North Main Street NW Kennesaw, GA

March 15th FBC Powder Spring 4330 North Avenue Powder Springs, GA

March 22nd Sherwood Baptist Church 2201 Whispering Pines Road Albany, GA

[Hispanic Training] April 12th Bethel Baptist Church of Omega 1347 Bethel Church Road Omega, GA

For more info go to https:// gabaptist.org/2025vbstraining/