OGEECHEE RIVER BAPTIST NETWORK

Visionary

A NETWORK OF LOCAL CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER TO FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION.

"Ye Shall Be Witnesses Unto Me…" Acts 1:8

APRIL 2026

Greetings From Our Missionary

A few days ago, I listened to the podcast *Not Dead Yet*, where Ben Sasse and Chris Stirewalt interviewed Mike Rowe of *Dirty Jobs*. They discussed the shift from a "brawn-based" economy to a "brain-based" one.

In a brawn-based economy, people worked on farms, construction sites, or in factories—pouring their energy into the task for a set period of time. At the end of the day, they put down their tools and went home. Even if work remained, there was a clear sense of completion.

In today's brain-based economy, our tools have become more efficient—but our minds rarely shut off. Because of the technology we carry in our pockets, work is never far away. The result is often mental, emotional, and physical exhaustion.

A simple reading of the Old Testament shows that God established clear rhythms of work and rest. There were designated days, weeks, and even years set apart for rest—for people, animals, and the land. Embracing these rhythms was not only an act of obedience, but also an expression of faith—trusting God to provide and remain faithful to His word.

As we enter the Easter season and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus—His victory over sin and death—I pray you experience Christ and His presence in fresh, life-giving ways. I also pray you rediscover the blessing of His gifts of completion and rest.

In Christ,
Jeff

Notes and News

- **Becoming a Disaster Ready Church – Training**

Tuesday, April 14 & May 12 | 6–9 PM | Eastern Heights Baptist Church
Five churches have committed to this training. If your church would like more information or would like to sign up, contact Jeff at 229-425-9726.

- **Third Thursday Minister Roundtable**

Thursday, April 16 | 10:00 AM | Network Offices
Steven Wright of the Georgia Baptist Mission Board will be our guest. These roundtables are open to all pastors, staff (paid or volunteer), and ministry leaders for fellowship, prayer, and peer-to-peer learning.

- **Practical Preaching Workshop**

Monday Nights | August–September 2026
In partnership with Middle Baptist Association, Tattnall-Evans Baptist Association, Guido Bible College, and ORBN. This workshop will equip participants to develop, deliver, and evaluate biblically grounded sermons. Only 13 spots remain. See the attached flyer for details.

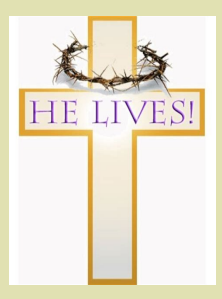
- **Know Your Network**

This 35–40-minute presentation explains the purpose and value of a Baptist association and how individuals and churches can partner in ministry. Contact Jeff to schedule a presentation at your church.

CHURCHES AND MISSIONS

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

John 1:29 - *"Behold! [Jesus Christ] The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*



WMU ... Women on Mission

One of the scripture passages that has provided inspiration for WMU in our Southern Baptist Churches for years is found in Ephesians 2:10. "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." We are blessed as Baptist Women on Mission to obediently undergird mission praying, giving, and going on several levels. Each year, we support International Missions through the Lottie Moon Offering, as well as church planting in North America through the North American Mission Board. And we cooperate with important ministries as Georgia Baptists to meet more local needs.

Desiring to have a more "hands on" mission experience to meet needs in our broader neighborhood, our newly formed ORBN Women on Mission Lead Team is excited to sponsor a Spring Mission outing to encourage students at the **Georgia Baptist Children's Home in Baxley**. **On April 25th**, volunteers from our ORBN churches will travel to the Baxley campus to facilitate a Field Day where we enjoy archery and corn-hole activities related to the theme, "Hitting the Mark." As students try their hand with the games, both students and volunteers will mingle and enjoy fun and fellowship. The day will end with a theme-related inspirational devotional message, followed by a fellowship meal.

We ask you to join us in prayer as our ORBN Women on Mission meet needs through the churches in the Ogeechee River Baptist Network. If women in your church are interested in participating in our Spring Mission outing, please feel free to contact me through the ORBN office.

Praying for the Lord to use us all in mighty ways for the Gospel!

Blessings!
Yvonne Parker, ORBN WMU Director

April Birthdays

7	Josh Boyett
11	Mira Kang
16	Chris Bryan
17	Larry Saunders
18	Chloee Crocker
25	Shelley Savage

April Anniversaries

7	Tom & Cindy Osborne
8	Jim & Dianne Correll
13	Bill & Edna Vansant
21	John & Angie Long

Camp Pinnacle

(Missions Camp for Girls. Many date throughout the summer. Camps for K5-12th grade.)

Pinnacle Retreat Center—Clayton, GA

Go to: https://camppinnacle.net

Bible Trivia

Choose one:

In Matthew 3 & 4 what is the first recorded command of both John the Baptizer & Jesus?

A. "Go into the whole world and make disciples."
B. "Remember all of the things God has shown you."
C. "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."
D. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

See page 4 for answer

Ministry Positions Available:

Senior Pastor
FBC Blitchton (Bryan)—Contact Ronnie Black at 912-531-2685.

Senior Pastor
Excelsior Baptist Church (Candler)—Contact Joe Deloach at 912-682-6321.

Senior Pastor
Pulaski Baptist Church (Candler)—Contact Marty Franklin at 912-685-6575.

Minister to Families & Children
FBC Statesboro (Bulloch)—Contact Robbie Norman at 912-764-5627.

Rev. 5:12 - *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain / To receive power … riches … wisdom, / … strength … honor … glory and blessing!"*

News From Our Churches

FRIENDSHIP—**Sun., 4/5 | 7am:** *Sunrise Service in the Prayer Garden!* **9:15 am:** *Sunday school.* **10:30 am:** *Worship (in Sanctuary).* All are welcome.

LEEFIELD—*(1)***Sun., 4/5 | 7:30-8:30am:** *Sunrise Service & Breakfast*. **9:00 am:** *Sunday school.* **10:00 am:** *Worship (in Sanctuary).* All are welcome. *(2)***Sun., 6/7 - Wed., 6/10 | 6-8:30 nightly:** *VBS- "Gone Fishing": The Miracles of Jesus!*

NEW LIFE—*(1)***Fri., 4/3 | 7 pm:** *Good Friday Service! (2)***Sun., 4/5 | 7:30 am:** *Sunrise Service!*

TEMPLE HILL—**Sat., 4/18 | 4-7pm:** *Karaoke Evening.* Come join us (2011 Metts Rd., Statesboro; in Social Hall) for an evening of fellowship, singing and finger foods

Ministry Missives

We at Ogeechee River Baptist Network (ORBN) are here to serve our member congregations, working with you in ministry, … *"just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..."* (Matt. 20:28)

To that end, we have 4 main Missions & Ministry Teams:

1. Fulfilling Acts 1:8
2. Church Planting & Replanting
3. Supporting & Encouraging Ministers
4. Training & Equipping Church Leaders

To meet the goals of these teams, we schedule trainings:

⇒ Recently: VBS Jumpstart *(training)*
⇒ Upcoming: Third Thursday Roundtable *(monthly for Pastors & Church staff)*, Becoming a Disaster Ready Church trainings, Practical Preaching Workshop" *(see flyer),* plus others.
⇒ We promote classes through Guido Bible College *(see flyer)*.

We have standing ministries:

⇒ Baby Comfort Station *(set up at the fair annually)*
⇒ Camp "I AM" *(camp for)*
⇒ WMU … Women on Mission *(see article on p.2)*

A few missions trips and other events are also in the works. We look forward to serving the Savior with you!

SURGE Music Camp

(A camp that combines musical ability + a heart for worship! Two programs: Students / 6th grade - first year College & Children / 3rd-5th grade)

Shorter University—Rome, GA
- June 15-20

Go to: https://surgemusiccamp.com

IMPACT

(Camp for Middle & High Schoolers that offers strategic teaching, worship, and recreation, which fosters life-changing conversations, long-term relationships, and deeper intimacy with Christ!)

Shorter University—Rome, GA
- June 1-5

Go to: https://impactunite.com

SUPERWOW

(The best evangelistic Summer Camp for Teenagers in the nation!)

Laguna Beach Christian Retreat—Panama City Beach, FL
- June 8-12
- June 15-19

Go to: https://superwow.com

Camp "I AM"

Theme: The Story Teller *(Lessons From the Parables of Jesus)*
Where: 7th Mile Farm (7200 GA Hwy. 46, Statesboro)
When: (JR / 1st-3rd) July 19-20 (SR / 4th-6th) July 20-24
Registration: Early registration ends on April 30th.
Final registration begins May 1st and ends June 30th.
[Register on-line at orbnetwork.org OR through the Ogeechee River Baptist Network office or one of our ORBN-member church congregations.]
Cost: Junior - *(early)* $25, *(after 4/30)* $30 Senior - *(early)* $150, *(after 4/30)* $175

If you would like to help with this year's adventure in any capacity, our next planning meeting is at 6:30 p.m. in the ORBN office on Thursday, April 9th. If you want to help but can't make this meeting, call Debbie at the ORBAN office (912-764-3620) for more info.

Ogeechee River Baptist Network

17 North College Street
Statesboro, GA 30458
Phone: 912-764-3620
Fax: 912-489-4566
Website: www.orbnetwork.org
OR visit us on Facebook
Moderator: Lee Collins
Vice Moderator: Shannon Ramsey
Network Missionary: Jeff Parmer
E-mail: orbamissionary@orbalife.org
Ministry Assistant: Debbie Marotte
E-mail: orbaoffice@orbalife.org

Answer to TRIVIA: D

On Tuesday, April 21st, FRC will host *Be the Village*—our annual spring gala! This year is especially meaningful as we celebrate our **fifth anniversary** and reflect on five years of life, support, and community through Foundations Resource Center.

We would love for you to join us as we celebrate all the Lord has done over these past five years. Because of His provision—and the incredible generosity of our community—we've had an overwhelming response from local businesses stepping in as sponsors.

As a result, space is very limited this year. In fact, we've outgrown our traditional venue at The Foxhall and have moved the event to the Fellowship Hall at First Baptist Church Statesboro to accommodate as many guests as possible.

Even if you did not get tickets, you can still be part of what God is doing through FRC. You can give online toward the *Be the Village* campaign anytime between now and the night of the event. Just go to ...

https://givebutter.com/frcgala26

Associational Missions Week

May 10-17, 2026

More info coming in next month's Visionary!

Calendar 2026

Items in Black & Highlighted are Ogeechee River Baptist Network events.
Black - Holidays. Blue - Southern Baptist Convention events.
Orange - Georgia Baptist Mission Board events.

APRIL *(Focus on Christian Evangelism)*
3 Good Friday, Office Closed
5 Resurrection Sunday (Easter)
5 Georgia Baptist Women's Hispanic Spring Event, TBD
9 Network Administrative Team Meeting, ORBN Office | 9:00 a.m.
Camp "I AM" Planning Meeting, ORBN Office | 6:30 p.m.
12 Baptism Sunday
16 Third Thursday Roundtable, ORBN Office | 10:00 a.m.
18 Georgia Baptist Women's Spring Event, FBC Jonesboro
25 WOM/WMU Ministry Day, GA Bapt. Children's Home in Baxley | time TBD
30 Early Registration for Camp "I AM" ENDS
[Registration Continues Until June 30th]

MAY *(Focus on Christian Education)*
1 FINAL registration for Camp "I AM" BEGINS *[Forms available on website or at ORBN Office]*
3 SBC Seminary Sunday
7 National Day of Prayer
10-17 Associational Missions Emphasis/Page Associational Offering
10 Mother's Day
14 Network Administrative Team Meeting, ORBN Office, 9:00 a.m.
Network Executive Council Meeting, ORBN Office, 10:00 a.m.
Camp "I AM" Planning Meeting, ORBN Office, 6:30 p.m.
17 Children's Ministry Sunday
21 Third Thursday Roundtable, ORBN Office, 10:00 a.m.
25 Memorial Day, Office Closed
31 Disaster Relief Sunday

THE GOSPEL

According to 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

"...I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain."

1. Jesus Christ died for our sins (according to the Scriptures)
2. He was buried
3. He rose again the third day (according to the Scriptures)

FLYER #1 - Bulletin Insert

OGEECHEE RIVER BAPTIST NETWORK

A network of local churches working together to fulfill the Great Commission.

36 local congregations partnering and cooperating across Bryan, Bulloch and Candler Counties

Why should you and your church support and participate in your Network?

Missional partnerships propagate The Gospel
We can advance the message of Christ farther than any one church can alone.

Missional partnerships prioritize the Kingdom
We must "seek first the Kingdom of God"

Missional partnerships profit the church.
Encouraging, supporting and resourcing one another in ministry

Support. Participate. Partner.

Pray for your Network

Sign-up for email updates and our monthly newsletter by phone, 912-764-3620,
or send an email to: orbaoffice@orbalife.org

Follow us on Facebook

Participate in training and equipping events offered by the Network

Serve on a ministry team, join an Acts 1:8 mission trip (as they become active), and volunteer in one of the ongoing ministries of the Network.

The greater the cause, the greater the need for cooperation.

orbnetwork.org

FLYER #2 - Habit of Grace CLASS

Habits of Grace

Join us for a 4 week exploration of classic Christian spiritual practices and how we can find grace for our daily lives through these practices.

Mondays in April from
6:00-9:00 PM.
Taught by Bo Fulginiti

Cost for the workshop is $30 per person
(includes a book).

Guido Bible College
600 N. Lewis St.
Metter, GA
912-685-2222

FLYER #3 - Public Reading of God's Word

PUBLIC READING OF GOD'S WORD ON THE COURTHOUSE LAWN AND COMMUNITY PRAYER WALK (OR RIDE!)

God's Word, Community Choir, National Day of Prayer

- The Boro community is again hosting the Public Reading of God's Word on the Courthouse Lawn from **May 6 to May 8, 2026.**
- All are invited to come and listen as Scripture is read until 8pm daily.
- A special performance by the Boro Community Choir will take place on **May 6, from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.**
- A community-wide celebration of the **National Day of Prayer** will be held on **May 7, from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.**

Come to the Courthouse Lawn. … Bring a chair and read along or listen to God's Holy Word!

Community Prayer Walk

- Join to pray for our nation, our city, and our neighbors
- Gather with at least one other person for any amount of time
- Choose any location - consider walking or riding through the GSU campus, the mall, downtown, local neighborhoods or schools

Wednesday, May 6th

8:30 am - 12 pm

1 pm - 8 pm

Thursday, May 7th

8:30 am - 11 am

1:30 pm - 8 pm

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105

Location

Bulloch County Courthouse Lawn Statesboro, GA

rmperkins2005@yahoo.com (912) 687-1447 cell

FLYER #4 - Practical Preaching Workshop

PRACTICAL PREACHING WORKSHOP

ONLY **$30** PER PERSON
LIMITED TO THE FIRST **20** REGISTRANTS

Discover and develop the resources and skills to prepare and preach biblical sermons.

A ministry provided by the Ogeechee River Baptist Network, Middle Baptist Association, Tattnall-Evans Baptist Association & Guido Bible College

Who Is This For?

- Those who are exploring a call to ministry
- Experienced pastors with formal training
- Experienced pastors with no formal training
- Those who want to mentor those aspiring to ministry
- Those who don't sense a call to ministry but may occasionally teach or preach

Scan the QR code to register:

Monday Nights, 6 – 8 PM

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2026

600 N. Lewis St., Metter, GA,
Guido Bible College

For more information:
Jeff Parmer 229-425-9726