



Bigbee Baptist Association

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Brother Brad's Box...

Hi Friends!

I want to start out this newsletter with a big "THANK YOU" to each and every one of you who shared about, planned, organized, publicized, prayed for, and enthusiastically attended our Sunday School training event on the 14th of October. We were challenged and motivated, which was the whole purpose. And I'm grateful.

The word 'thankful' actually means to be full of thanks, of course. If there is one thing I'm full of, it's thanks. I'm so very thankful to live in this great country of ours where we are still free to worship. I'm thankful to live in the state of Alabama, where we have remained for many years now the number one giver, in Cooperative Program dollars, to missions, supporting work here at home, around our nation, and around the world.

I'm thankful to live and work in the Blackbelt region. I'm thankful to live in a small county and town that offer so much in the way of community support and encouragement and prayers for one another. I'm thankful to serve and be a part of a church that continues to stand strong in the area for over 180 years now. I'm thankful for other pastors and congregations like you who stand up and stand out when somedays that is not the easy or popular thing to do.

And that's really the point I'm trying to make here. I hope and pray that you aren't discouraged by the way things "used to be" in comparison to today. As difficult as change can be, times do change. People change. Church congregations change.

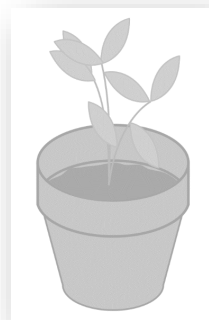
Change is not a bad thing though. What would happen if we never took the time to change the oil in our car? What if no one ever stopped to change the baby's dirty diaper? What if the weather never changed? And what if we never changed? Do you really want to be the same person you were 20, 30, 40+ years ago? No, me either.

As the air becomes cooler, the leaves turn colors, and the seasons come and go, I'm thankful for the change. I'm thankful that we are trying some new things. And I'm thankful that the Good Lord above loves us too much to leave us the way we were. He loved us, He bought and paid for us, He died for us, and thankfully, He changed us!

Thanksgiving and Christmas are fast approaching. As seasons rotate, accept the changes that come with them. Our eldest daughter is getting married in November. We are looking forward to that change in our family. With change comes excitement. With change comes new opportunities for new things on new days.

Let's change and grow together!

Blessings!
Brad



Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

4 Daylight Savings Time ENDS

6 Election Day

5 Pastors Conference, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office

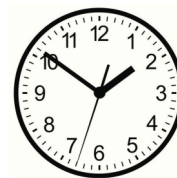
13-14 Alabama Baptist State Convention, Trussville First

DECEMBER

2-9 Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Offering (Foreign Missions)

3 Pastors Conference, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE WEEKS OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S .



*DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
ENDS
November 3rd*



**WEEK OF PRAYER
FOR
LOTTIE MOON**

DEC 2-9

"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

