

CHURCH NEWS

Hope Crossings Church, located at 2106 Old Pendergrass Road in Jefferson, invites everyone to attend a free community Easter egg hunt on April 23. Activities and crafts will begin at 10 a.m. with the egg hunt to follow. More than 1,500 candy-filled eggs will be hidden and there will be two "golden egg" prizes. Free hot dogs and sodas will be served. Ages 0-10 invited to participate. Anyone wanting to donate plastic or wrapped candy eggs is asked to contact Chris at hopecrossings@windstream.net or 706-654-4673. You can visit www.hopecrossings.org

Zion Baptist Church of Braselton will hold its annual Easter egg hunt from 10 a.m. until on Saturday, April 23, for children ages birth through fifth grade. Zion Baptist Church will have a Good Friday

communion service from 7-8 p.m. on Friday, April 22. Childcare will be provided from birth through 3 years.

White Plains Baptist Church, located at 3650 Hwy 124 West in Jefferson, will be having an Easter celebration for children under the age of 12 at 10 a.m. on April 23. Please join in for an Easter egg hunt, crafts, games and story time. Call 706 367 5650 for further information.

Hoschton United Methodist Church is hosting its Easter drama at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 23. Easter sunrise service followed by free pancake breakfast will begin at 7:15 a.m. on Easter morning. There will be an 11 a.m. service, but no 9 a.m. service, no Sunday school and no Children's church.

The Primetimers senior group will meet in Fellowship Hall of HUMC at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 29, for Lunch/Bingo. Contact Sandra Morgan for further information. Hoschton United Methodist Church is located at 12 Mulberry St., two blocks behind city hall. Contact the Rev. Luis Ortiz at 706-654-1422. Visit www.hoschtonumc.org

Covenant Faith World Outreach Church in Braselton is holding services at 185 Broadway Ave., Suite 300, behind A Flea Antiques on Highway 124 in Braselton. Services include Sunday school of the Bible at 10 a.m. with the worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Refresh is at 6 p.m. with Empower Bible Study at 7 p.m. Wednesday's study is on divine healing. Pastor Jason Gratehouse can be contacted at 678-315-2285.

A gospel singing featuring The Gobers will be at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 16, at Faith Tabernacle in Cumming. The Gobers will also be singing at New Life Worship Center in Statham at 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 17. For information, call 770-867-3276 or visit www.TheGobers.com

New Liberty United Methodist Church is hosting The BIG Day on Easter Sunday morning for the 11 a.m. worship service. Enjoy coffee, fellowship and music with the sharing of God's Word. An Easter sunrise service is also planned for 6:53 a.m. on April 24. Maundy Thursday choir

cantata will be at 7 p.m. on April 21 with the Good Friday communion service at 7 p.m. on April 22. The Easter egg hunt at The Children's Place will be on Saturday, April 16. New Liberty United Methodist Church is located at 26 Charlie Smith Road in Braselton at the corner of Jessie Cronin and Ednaville roads. Contact the Rev. Greenwald at 706-654-2406 or Pastor@NewLibertyUMC.org. visit www.newlibertyumc.org

Hoschton First Baptist Church is hosting "There's Hope for the Hungry" on the third Tuesday of each month, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. There's Hope for the

Hungry is a scripture-rooted, passion-filled ministry, founded in prayer, which is committed to evangelizing and feeding people who are in need. Community members in need can visit Hoschton First Baptist during the hours listed above, and will receive boxes of food at no charge, to help feed their families. Thanks to generous volunteers from area salons, free haircuts will be available during these hours, as well. Hoschton First Baptist Church, where the sanctuary recently underwent an extreme makeover, is located at 99 E. Jefferson St., in downtown Hoschton. For more information, contact the church office at 706-654-2938.

PASTOR'S PEN from page 4A
Puzzles and mysteries of life demonstrate faith

Maybe that's the answer. You see, the child has asked a question that's a trap. Her father seemed to realize it was a trap and that's why he was so cautious in answering his daughter. He wants his daughter to affirm her faith while having a healthy appreciation for science. He doesn't want her to reject either one, but to continue to subject both to tough questions, which demand the best answers, for this is one of the best ways for her to discover truth and knowledge. People with a healthy faith learn that mystery is a component of God, which should be embraced and incorporated in their faith. When Jesus was asked questions he felt were designed to trap Him, he always answered the question with a question. Maybe that's how this father could answer his daughter. Instead of answering her questions with a statement, perhaps he should respond with a question: "Well, darling, who made them Adam, Eve and the caveman?"

Genesis is written to tell us WHO made the earth and all that dwells within it. It is not written to tell us exactly how God made the earth or even the time lines, only that God spoke and that it came into being, "ex nihilo," that is, "out of nothing," and that we were made from the dust of the ground. Scientists will continue to grapple with the how's of creation, but there will always be mystery around creation because when you begin with nothing and end up with a universe, that demands the presence of the supernatural, which is surrounded with mystery. You cannot explain how you get from nothing to something. If a 10-year-old can grapple with the question, "Who came first, Adam and Eve or the caveman," I think she can be comfortable living with a bit of mystery. "Child, what we know

for sure is that the infinite God came first. What we know is whenever science proves anything beyond any doubt, only then can we embrace it fully. Any thing science can prove does not threaten our faith. It's like God pulling back His veil and saying, "This is how I did it." But until then, much of life's origins remain shrouded in mystery, even as scientists chip away at understanding it. Be comfortable with mystery, for we worship a mysterious God, who has revealed enough of Himself that we can be assured of our faith in Him and of His mysterious nature." The words Paul wrote the church at Corinth are appropriate for us here: "Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely" (1 Corinthians 13:12).

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Sunday, April 24 11am