

September 2018

Dear *Baptist Messenger* friend,

For more than 100 years, the *Baptist Messenger* has been informing and inspiring Oklahoma Baptists and others, and serving as the flagship publication for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

In January 2019, the *Baptist Messenger* will enter a new era. To be specific, the *Messenger* print edition will make a major move from a weekly print publication to a semi-monthly (printing two editions per month) publication, as well as be enhanced with a new look and features.

As the *Baptist Messenger* print edition moves to semi-monthly, **Oklahoma Baptists connected to a BGCO church can request and receive the print publication subscription pre-paid (at no subscriptions cost to churches) as of January 2019.** The number of pre-paid subscriptions available to Oklahoma Baptist churches is limited and is intended for church members only.

This cost-free, pre-paid subscription option for BGCO church members is made possible by the Cooperative Program and *Messenger* paid advertising. The move to printing semi-monthly will be cost effective for the BGCO and for churches who previously paid for subscriptions through church budgets. (Individuals who are not connected to a BGCO church may purchase a subscription.)

Next, as of January 2019, the *Baptist Messenger*/Church newsletter wrap program will no longer be offered. Instead the BGCO Print Shop will offer affordable church newsletter assistance options that churches can consider independently of *The Messenger*. We are exceedingly grateful for the churches and associations who have participated in *The Messenger* wrap program over the years.

To accompany the 2019 changes to the print publication, *The Messenger* will expand upon its growing product line, which includes a breaking-news website (BaptistMessenger.com), the free Messenger Go smartphone app, an award-winning blog (WordSlingsOK.com), the Messenger Insight podcast, social media channels and a quarterly Spanish edition. With new digital media channels at our fingertips, the *Baptist Messenger* will enhance its focus on bringing you stories and news through online resources, while continuing a strong print presence.

Moreover, the same great content readers enjoy, such as missions and church news, Walker Moore's column, the crossword puzzle and more will continue in 2019, with an enhanced layout, as well.

We greatly appreciate your partnership in the Gospel.

In Christ alone,



Brian Hobbs
Editor, Baptist Messenger

P.S. If you have questions about these 2019 changes, please contact us at 405-942-3800 or baptistmessenger@okbaptist.net.

Baptist Messenger – Anticipated print publishing dates in 2019

Jan 10 Jan 24	Apr 4 Apr 18	Jul 4 Jul 18	Oct 3 Oct 17
Feb 7 Feb 21	May 2 May 16	Aug 1 Aug 15	Nov 7 Nov 21
Mar 7 Mar 21	Jun 6 Jun 20	Sep 5 Sep 19	Dec 5 Dec 19

Baptist Messenger – Frequently Asked Questions

I heard the Baptist Messenger is making some changes. When will that take place?

Starting in January of 2019, the Baptist Messenger print edition will move from weekly to being printed twice monthly (see publishing calendar above).

How much does a subscription cost now?

The Baptist Messenger print edition will cost \$13.75 per year for individual subscribers. Members of Oklahoma Baptist/BGCO churches can receive a pre-paid subscription, which costs nothing to the church or the individual. Church subscription list size is limited.

I heard as of January 2019, the Baptist Messenger/Church newsletter wrap program will no longer be offered. What can our church do for a newsletter?

The Baptist Messenger newsletter wrap program will be discontinued in 2019, due the change in frequency of printing and other factors. However, the BGCO Print Services Shop offers church newsletter assistance of various kinds. For more information, contact Rob Miller at (405)942-3800 or email rmiller@bgco.org.

Will the content I love, such as Walker Moore's column and the crossword puzzle, be published?

Yes. All of the great content Messenger readers are accustomed to remains. Additional new features and layout enhancements will also be introduced in 2019.

Our church subscribes to the Messenger for its members. How will the changes affect us?

Until January of 2019, you will continued to be invoiced for subscription charges to any print or digital subscriptions to the Baptist Messenger, connected to your account. After January 2019, you will no longer be invoiced/billed for Messenger subscriptions connected to your account, though the list size is limited to your church size. For details, contact the Baptist Messenger staff at subscriptions@okbaptist.net or (405)942-3800.

Can we still advertise or take out classified ads with The Messenger?

Yes, the Baptist Messenger will continue to offer affordable advertising print and online options.

Will the BaptistMessenger.com website, podcast, free "Messenger Mobile" and "Messenger Digital" apps continue to be offered? What about the blog WordSlingersOK.com?

Yes, the breaking-news website and extended Messenger products will continue and be expanded.