

# TRAVEL FOR THE SEASON: SPRING

an advertising supplement

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is available on *The Alabama Baptist* website ([www.thealabamabaptist.org](http://www.thealabamabaptist.org)). For more information, call 205-870-4720, Ext. 102, or e-mail [ads@thealabamabaptist.org](mailto:ads@thealabamabaptist.org).

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## LIVE CHICKENS, EATING CONTESTS, & ROOSTER ART HIGHLIGHT ALABAMA CHICKEN AND EGG FESTIVAL

Alabama Chicken and Egg Festival  
Paid Advertising

The Alabama Chicken and Egg Festival is all it's cracked up to be - an interactive agricultural experience offering old-fashioned fun, live chickens, and original, fine rooster artwork. The annual event is scheduled for April 9-10 at the Fairgrounds in Moulton.

Children and adults take part in the many egg-citing contests in hopes of receiving a prize or simply a good laugh. For those with an appetite, the eating contests will satisfy any craving for hard-boiled eggs and chicken wings. Other wacky contests include Egg Roulette, egg toss, and a chicken clucking contest.

For children with inquisitive



minds, the Poultry Palace, a traveling trained chicken eggzibit, will answer any question as it relates to chickens. Children will also love Steve Gryb, the Pied Piper of Percussion, and his one-of-a-kind show featuring exotic percussion instruments from around the world.

Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chair and enjoy live music from fifteen bands including

country rock band Confederate Railroad. Throughout the weekend, Southern Folklife artists will also be demonstrating a diversity of folk skills dating back to the pioneer days and new for this year's event is a juried art exhibition on the theme of roosters.

Admission is only \$3 each day of the event. For more information, visit [www.alabamachickenandeggfestival.com](http://www.alabamachickenandeggfestival.com) or call 256.905.0700.

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334-687-3793 • 1-888-383-2852  
visit [www.eufaulapilgrimage.com](http://www.eufaulapilgrimage.com)

For information about advertising in *The Alabama Baptist*, contact Advertising Director Brian Giles at 205-870-4720, Ext. 107 or [bgiles@thealabamabaptist.org](mailto:bgiles@thealabamabaptist.org).

*Travel with other Baptists and your Baptist Chaplain, Rev. Roy Myers*

# Ireland

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*Enjoy the Cooler Irish Weather!*

**12 Days from \$1449\***

*Visit the best of Ireland on this comprehensive tour of both Northern and Southern Ireland, visiting all the major highlights.*

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\*Price per person, based on double occupancy. Plus \$159 tax, service, gov't fees. Airfare is extra.

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Philippians 4:4

**Pat's Secret Garden Booking Group Tours NOW!**  
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COMING SOON

## Easter Events and Programs

advertising package  
in *The Alabama Baptist*

**March 24 and April 14**

Reserve your space for the March 24 issue by March 11.  
Reserve your space for the April 14 issue by April 1.

Churches contact Pam Holt at 205-870-4720, Ext. 113 or [pholt@thealabamabaptist.org](mailto:pholt@thealabamabaptist.org).  
Businesses contact James Plunkett at 205-747-0564 or [jplunkett@thealabamabaptist.org](mailto:jplunkett@thealabamabaptist.org).



## SBC membership declines for 3rd consecutive year

Peentecostals, Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses gained ground, mainline churches continued to decline and growth in the largest two denominations — Roman Catholics and Southern Baptists — remained stagnant, according to new statistics compiled by the National Council of Churches (NCC).

The 2011 Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches contains few surprises, with growing churches continuing to grow and churches that have been declining continuing to lose members, said Eileen Linder, editor of the annual report card ranking growth in the largest 25 religious bodies. The 79th annual edition of the Yearbook noted that rates of both growth and decline have slowed in recent years.

The Catholic Church, the nation's largest denomination with 68 million members, grew by about one half of 1 percent, while the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), the second-largest, declined by .4 percent, to 16.1 million members.

This is the third straight year the Yearbook has noted a loss in membership for Southern Baptists, which until recently reported decades of uninterrupted growth.

Membership figures reported in the 2011 Yearbook were collected by churches in 2009 and reported to the NCC in 2010. The SBC's membership totals are compiled by LifeWay Christian Resources. Churches report vital statistics through Baptist state conventions that are then given to LifeWay.

Southern Baptists count only the professed and baptized believers as members, compared to groups like Catholics who number communicants from infancy. About one-third of Southern Baptists included in the count of total membership are "nonresident" members, who joined a local Baptist church but moved away and never transferred their membership. Southern Baptists don't count inactive members, people who belong to a church but never attend, but about a third of the total membership is in church on a given Sunday.

The Yearbook does not count nondenominational churches, which reportedly are the second-largest group of Protestant churches in America and the fastest growing. (ABP)

### CORRECTION

The photo outline for the 'Anniston/Oxford hosts 2011 RA/Challenger basketball tournament' printed in the Feb. 17 issue of *The Alabama Baptist* had an incorrect church name for the winners of the Young Challengers and the Older Challengers. The correct name is Woodridge Baptist Church, Mobile.

# The Gulf Coast Area

an advertising supplement

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