



OCTOBER



Dear Beloved of the LORD,

At our last deacons meeting, the subject of prayer came up through one of the members of the committee. The importance of prayer was brought to the forefront and the desire to have a congregation wide prayer emphasis was discussed and approved (there will be more information about this effort coming very soon). But until that begins, we should all be in prayer right now: for our families, our brothers and sisters of First Baptist, our nation, and the church of Jesus Christ worldwide.

Prayer is the one thing that enables us to impact the lives of anyone anywhere! Simply communicating with our God on behalf of others is a ministry that can be done by anyone who is in Christ. (see Heb. 9:11-15, 10:19-23)

The first church in Jerusalem had prayer as one of the most important things they dedicated themselves to doing: *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42. God people are people of prayer.*

This month, we will be meeting as we usually do, Lord willing- but we will also enjoy a Homecoming Service and two nights of revival. In the United States, many young people have departed the church of Jesus Christ. They are no longer living in fellowship with Christ or his people. Maybe they are saved and a part of the spiritual family of God- but they are prodigals. Or maybe they were never saved and naturally left when they had the freedom to do so- only God knows. At a homecoming people are reunited and remember. Let us be in prayer for these special services- that people will remember the Lord and return to HIM if they have departed. Let us pray for salvations and rededications. Let us pray for repentance- Let us pray for a Revival in our midst. Let us pray for revival within ourselves. Revival is seen in a love and commitment to Christ and His ways. It is a rejection of sin and disobedience to God and his commandments. Let us be in prayer in this critical time in God's story.

Love in Christ, Pastor Paul

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MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Galatians 6:9: *And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.*

BLESSING BOX

This is located in the church parking lot. Food, paper goods and hygiene items can be placed directly in the box.

FOOD PANTRY

Collecting food for our local Food Pantry is a mission opportunity. We have lots of volunteers from First Baptist who give of their time each week working at the local food pantry located on highway 32 beside the old DMV office. We have a food pantry box in the hallway beside the church office where you can place food items.

BENEVOLENCE

This fund is used to help in the local community and in our own church family with whatever needs may arise. Giving to the benevolence fund helps us to continue to meet these needs.

MILE OF PENNIES

Loose change is collected each Sunday until we reach a mile and then it is sent in to the Baptist Children's Homes.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoeboxes

We will be sponsoring this project again. We do encourage everyone in our church to prepare a box. We have free official Samaritan's Purse cardboard boxes in the church office for anyone who would like to use them. The cost for shipping the boxes is \$9.00. Donations will be accepted to help with the cost. Please write on your envelope "Samaritan's Purse Shipping." Collection dates are November 16-20.

Appalachian Coalfields Ministry

It is time for the Appalachian Coalfield Backpack Ministry. This year we are asking that if you would like to contribute to this ministry, please pick up an empty backpack from the church and fill it with the items listed below. The Baptist men will also enclose a Bible and a copy of the Christmas Story in each backpack. The deadline for this ministry is October 30, 2020.

Items that can be included are as follows:

- A)** Small items of **NEW warm clothing** such as winter hats, gloves, socks, scarves, etc.
- B)** Small **pop-top canned food** such as ravioli, tuna, beef stew, vegetables, fruit (3-4 cans)
- C)** At least 1-2 **NEW, age appropriate non-breakable toy** (*no toy weapons, please!*) This can include small cars, balls, dolls, small stuffed animals, yo-yos, jump rope, sidewalk chalk, card games, Legos, etc. For oldest age group (15-17) substitute an appropriate item instead of a toy, such as, a flashlight, small thermos, light blanket, books, hunting and fishing magazines for the boys - jewelry, books, skin care products, hair accessories, etc. for girls.
- D)** **Hygiene items** including full sized containers of toothpaste, body wash, shampoo and deodorant, as well as toothbrush, soap, washcloth, brush or comb. (*Please fit these items into a one gallon Ziploc bag so they do not leak out into the rest of the backpack.*)
- E)** **Fresh, wrapped candy** (*no chocolate please, as it may melt; and no peanut products*)

Age Grouping and Labeling. Each backpack should be labeled boy or girl as well as the appropriate age. Age groupings for this year are **4-7, 8-10, 11-14, 15-17. Due to labels falling off in previous years, we went to a ribbon system for labeling last year, and it proved to be very effective.** Each backpack will have two 10 inch ribbons tied to them - one to indicate gender and one for age, as follows:

Gender:

Blue ribbon will indicate a boy's backpack.
Pink ribbon will indicate a girl's backpack.

Age:

Yellow ribbon for ages 4-7
Green ribbon for ages 8-10
Red ribbon for ages 11-14
White ribbon for ages 15-17.

The FBC Ladies Knitting Group have donated hand knitted scarves that can be included in the Backpacks. They can be picked up in the church office.

We ask that you prepare your backpack as you would for your own child or grandchild, with new items, not used ones. This quality gift could be the only Christmas present this child receives and will be a witness of Christ's love!

As always, thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

CALLED CONFERENCE

There will be Called Conference Sunday, October 4 at the close of service to vote on the 2020-2021 Committee Report.

There will not be a Food Pantry truck in October.

We will begin observing Communion on the first Sunday of every month beginning October 4.

DEACON'S MEETING

The Deacons will meet Monday, October 19 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall with David Carraway hosting.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study is back on Wednesday nights at 6:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall. It is also streamed live on Facebook.

We are sad to say that Mark Sexton has stepped down from his position as pianist for our church. We pray God's richest blessings on him.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sharon Smith 10/1
Marie Bullock 10/5
Susan Thompson 10/6
Rebecca Harrison 10/10
Wayne Marks 10/13
Charlene Evans 10/14
Carson Brown 10/14
Tony Brabble 10/14
Ann Cody 10/17
Phyllis Faulk 10/20
Megan Stotesberry 10/21
Morgan Stotesberry 10/21
Tim Stotesbury 10/21
Emily Chandler 10/22
Scott Thompson 10/23
Amanda Frymier 10/26
Bob Cody 10/29
Jamie Leary 10/29
Kierstyn Smith 10/31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Johnny & Jolie Barnes
10/3
Rex & Sandy Stotesberry
10/16
Tim & Janet Ruth Griffin
10/21

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

CHURCH FAMILY: George Boyd, Louie Askew, John Smith, Marguerite Sexton Hart, Sue Owens, Tracie Wildman, Ann Jackson, Kristie Nicholson, Joyce Harrell, Chris Smith, Claudia Beacham, Faye McCombs, Oliver and Frances Lucas, Sandy McMurtrie, Clifford Frymier, Barbara Peyton.

OTHER CONCERNS: Reva Roberson, Don May (Friend of Dee Gee Griffith), Greg Spruill, Faye Lyle, William Sexton, Alfonzo Boyd, Ryan Alligood (Nephew of Wade Rogers), Christi Rogerson, Stevie O'Neal, Dr. James Hagwood, Kim Wynne, Mike Ward, Marty Barfield, Jason Phelps, Rodney Rogerson, Frank Winslow.

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS: Three Rivers- Christine McMurtrie #208, Joyce Harrell #410; River Trace Nursing & Rehab Center, Washington- Pauline Humphreys #418; Eunice Carraway #325; Roanoke Landing- Alice Dotson #209, Tim Elks #315; Rich Square Health Care Center - Annie Griffith #108-B; Chowan River Nursing Home - Rae Owens (Mother of Caroline Chandler).

HOMECOMING and REVIVAL

We will have Homecoming on Sunday, October 11. This will be a regular Homecoming Service, but there will not be a meal. Pastor Paul will be preaching. On Monday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 13 we will have Revival at 7:00 pm. Pastor Paul will bring the message. We look forward to seeing you at all these events.

CONGRATULATIONS

Deacons: Steve Barnes, Tony Dail, Russell Lee and Bill Sexton.

Deaconess: Brenda Bullock.

Trustees: David Noell and Ronnie Thompson.

We will have an Ordination Service for Tony and Russell at a date to be announced later.

GUEST SPEAKER

We will have a guest speaker from the Baptist Children's Homes on Sunday, October 25 to kick off our annual Thanksgiving Offering beginning in November. Due to Covid, the children from the home will not be able to attend.